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

Thanks to everyone who came to the meeting, there was a great turnout. Congratulations to the New Officers of 2024. President David Winfree WO4ROG, Vice President Rod MacLean KQ4FNO, Secretary/Treasurer Mike Grant KC4ABE, and Recorder Jeremy Gilchrist KN4JUY. I know 2024 will be a Great Year.

Singletary Lake State Park was another fun POTA event, October 13 – 15, thanks to David WO4ROG for scheduling and all who supported the outing.

Again, looking forward to seeing and working with everyone this year. Please feel free to contact me with questions, comments, and ideas to improve your club.

Thank you.

73

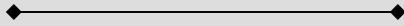
Dale AK4YS

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### CFARS Officers

President .....Dale AK4YS mohrd57@gmail.com  
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 Public Info.....Dale AK4YS mohrd57@gmail.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 \$20.00. CFARS offers a lifetime membership option for \$200.00. 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.



### October 2023 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:30 pm, Monday, October 16, 2023, in the Fellowship Hall of 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. Will KN4OTA gave the invocation. Dale AK4YS led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. There were 32 members and 1 guest

present. Laird WA2COU moved September's minutes be approved, Mike KC4ABE seconded, and the motion carried.



#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

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

**Health & Welfare:** Any information on those ill please communicate to Nina KN4KUL. Please keep the following in your prayers: Ron K4FET, Rick N1GNO, Steve KA4CZL, Nina KN4KUL.

**Repeaters:** The club repeaters are working.

**Field Day:** Still planning to use the Golfview greenway walking trail for 2024 FD.

**Membership:** 3 new members were presented for membership, moved by acclimation.

**Contesting:** No report.

**VE Coordinator:** Next test session will be Jan 13, 2024.

**Swapfest:** Planning for next year's 25th anniversary Swapfest.

**Public Relations:** No report.

**Newsletter:** Any submissions please send to Mike KN4XP by end of month, ideally in Microsoft Word format. [cfarsnews@gmail.com](mailto:cfarsnews@gmail.com)

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

**ARRL Liaison:** No report.

**Possum Trot Net:** Greg NC4GK gave an update on the PT net. Jeremy KN4JUJY has taken on the Monday morning PT nets.

**Eatin' Meetin':** Travis KM4JJJ will coordinate for this year's eatin' meetin'.

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**Skywarn:** No report.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** David KI4W stated that there was only one nominee that came forth for President, David WO4ROG. Mike KN4XP motioned to accept David WO4ROG as president. Motion carried. Mike KC4ABE nominated Rod KQ4FNO for vice president. Motion carried. Rod KQ4FNO nominated Mike KC4ABE for treasurer. Motion carried. David WO4ROG nominated Jeremy KN4JUY for recorder. Motion carried.

**Program:** Don WO4SFA and David WO4ROG gave an outline on the coming CFARS Special event station at the NC State Veteran's Park on November 4, 2023. Club will operate under the CFARS call sign, K4MN. Meeting at 0730 for setup. Needed for SES: Club trailer tower, hex beam, club radios, two tables (minimum), chairs, banner.

**Upcoming Events:**

- November 4 - NC State Veteran's Park-K4MN Special Event Station
- December 2 - Hope Mills Christmas Parade
- December 18 - Eatin' Meetin' at TBD.
- January 13-15 - Winter Field Day
- February 25 - The NC QSO Party

**Door Prizes:** Jeremy KN4JUY won a pack of cigars, Jeremy KN4JUY won an angle connector, Norman KN4CFW won a plant, Tim KQ4HDF won a microphone hook, David WO4ROG won a battery, Mike KC4ABE won a bag of black walnuts, Tim KQ4HDF won a DMR radio and Don KO4IHM won a microphone hook.

**50/50 Drawing:** \$90 collected. David WO4ROG had the winning ticket of \$45 and donated the money back to the club.

**Announcements:** Hector KB4LOA is working on club patches being made. Hector KB4LOA presented Mike KN4XP with a certificate of appreciation for 20 years plus years of being the newsletter club editor. David WO4ROG gave an update on the CERT team. Greg NC4GK moved that CFARS stay with ARES to support the EOC, rather than be involved with CERT. Bill KE4DER seconded and the motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:56PM. There were 33 members and guests present.

**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*

**November 19, 2023**

Jarsfest  
Benson, North Carolina  
jars.net

**March 8 - 9, 2024**

Charlotte Hamfest  
Concord, North Carolina  
charlottehamfest.org

**Rarsfest**

April 6, 2024  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
rarsfest.org

**CFARS VE Testing**

**2024 VE Testing Schedule**

January 13 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Peace Presbyterian Church 3203 Ramsey St. Fayetteville, NC 28301	9:00AM
March 16 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Peace Presbyterian Church 3203 Ramsey St. Fayetteville, NC 28301	9:00AM
August 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Cumberland County Shrine Club 7040 Ramsey St. Fayetteville, NC 28311	9:00AM
October 12 <sup>th</sup> 2024	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>.**



# The Vice's Point of View

The Holiday Season | Events | Ahead in the calendar

## Congratulations CFARS:



The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Officials are proud to recognize and congratulate YOU as an individual for your efforts during Field Day 2023. If you went there and supported our efforts, thank you. This proves once again that we are more than capable to accomplish our collective mission, from planning to executing Communication Equipment assembly/set up, testing, analyzing, conducting continuous amateur radio operations in several modes simultaneously, while having fun and BBQ for the entire operational period in a self-sufficient environment. Let's not forget the breakdown, maintenance, storage and accountability of all the equipment. Field day is not a contest, nor a coffee bar, it was absolutely everything we previously established as a club to be. It was all that and then

some. We were fast, and we were slow, we brought up non licensed operators and coached them through the process of becoming part of something greater, part of the Team. We had the privilege to promote, support, and lead amateur radio activities in a manner that honors and exemplifies the radio amateur's code, builds camaraderie within our membership, and ensures that we can serve our community's needs in a time of need, all while having so much fun. I'm honored to be part of this elite group communicators. Thanks a lot. This is the proof we had so much fun in the process (Before, during and after) and it still tastes like a CFARS Field Day. Who else brought shrimp and pasta to their FD? Together we achieved more. Coffee Cheers to all, and once again Congratulations.

## Current Events

We as a club are glad to present the next slate of officers that will assist the collective in reaching the horizon during 2024. Congratulations to  
David WO4ROG - CFARS President  
Rod KQ4FNO - CFARS VP  
Mike KC4ABE - CFARS Treasurer/Secretary

## Winter is almost here

"It's beginning to smell a lot like turkey" And change is in the air. Make room for an agile and mobilized agenda of activities as the current team is already doing their internal conclaves to bring you nothing but top-notch Amateur Radio activities that you can do by yourselves or collectively. This Team is coming hungry, and they are doing their very best to assist us in our journey to Amateur Radio 2024. In order to do this don't forget to pay your dues in a timely manner. Be part of

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the Team that is ready to help you write your Amateur Radio history.

We are dropping the pumpkin spice late with 2 Splendas, non-fat and whipped cream and getting ready for the eggnog. As we continue our Amateur Radio journey, and only double digits prior to the end of the year. We see that everything that we have done has built us to become better trained ham radio operators, and hopefully everyone has had the opportunity to get a taste of absolutely

everything that the Amateur Radio service has to offer. From Emergency communications, FT8, digital voice modes, leaving the shack and going portable to maybe activating a park on CW, this year more than ever we had CFARS members in all parts of the world and exercising different areas of ham radio. Juan Serra went to Europe for months and did some POTA Activations (check his POTA page), to Bob KL7NL doing CW. To Rod KQ4FNO actually going solo to a few parks and getting on the air at his own pace, I have to tell you that once someone teaches you the ropes, finding your rhythm & your pace is priceless.

We had Don Talbot WO4SFA helping us at the Cumberland County level to give you the Airborne and Special Operations Veterans Special Event Station. We couldn't have done without him, and this was another great event designed to give us the opportunity to honor our Veterans. We had LOTS of contacts, both foreign and domestic. SSB and CW stayed busy.

Local Park On the Air changes continue to happen on a daily and more "yellow dots" are showing up in our State. This affects all the hunters and activators, however we are blessed to have the POTA Regional Map Coordinator in our ranks, so we'll be able to get the latest and greatest from the direct source. These changes are to become permanent and you do not need to fix any logs previously submitted. However from now on we need to be observed and stay within the newly given guidance. Keep in mind that Mike Prevatte KN4XP is also working on getting new entities in the state, so more to follow on this subject.

Reading is much needed in order to grow, but the man in the arena rules by experience. With that been said I hope that everything we have done so far, and continue to do as a Team moves you, as we stay on top of the training schedule, and this involves hands on training. These opportunities are paramount to your success, and ultimately to our collective success as a Team. Most of these opportunities require you to bring pens and paper logs, so please keep that in mind.

I do not need to wait another month to find the time to tell you how grateful and honored I am to be part of 2023 as a Cape Fear Amateur Radio Operator. Thanksgiving is right around the corner, but the time to be thankful is every day. If you are not part of the CFARS Family I encourage you to do

so, as joining the Team is only a membership away. Consider us as part of your Team as we have the vision to move forward and grow in numbers, skills & knowledge. If you are new, welcome and we hope to be part of your development as an Amateur Radio Operator in the near future. If you are not new, sometimes our quest doesn't need to be about "what can I get from the organization," but what are you currently doing for your club? What did you do? A question designed to help you get motivated and have some goals, and ultimately what are you planning to do with Amateur Radio? Hopefully those two can give you the impulse to see yourselves in 2024, More to follow, and hope to see you at the November "Victory Lap" meeting.

The Singletary Lake outing was fantastic as we had the opportunity to grill and activate a POTA twofer the whole weekend. Plenty of antennas and food. 3 stations were set up to make contacts in different bands; 2 SSB and an FT8.

In case you haven't noticed, we are not done yet. Heat or cold snow we continue to move forward and if you follow the Parks On The Air pages you will see the progress that a lot of our teammates have done in a year. A lot of collective effort & elmering paid off. We identified the end goals & objectives, and we achieved them. Go ahead and amuse yourselves by going to POTA and plugging other member's call signs to see who is who. Furthermore, take a look at QRZ which happens to be your letter of presentation to the rest of the Amateur Radio World. At the end of the day you can be with us, share ideas, and knowledge, pick up a technique or two and become a better trained Amateur Radio Operator. That's where we want to be in 2024, and if you participated in any or all of our outings I can reassure you that you are getting better. Better is what we need for the Winter Field Day, our State's QSO Party and eventually Field Day 2024. Hope to see you behind the mike, Morse key or keyboard soon. Let's not forget that ALL these events have/require a lot of non-operational space and tasks, so feel free to find out how your Leadership Team can accommodate you in order to support CFARS and Ham Radio. I can reassure you that if you thought that CFARS is 'just 12 meetings and two events per year, you are wrong, and the new Team comes hungry & looks very promising. Are you ready to be taken to the next level? Are you ready to help and push forward? Then don't talk about it and be about it. Come and join us and be part of the Team as we get ready to go from Planning to Execution of the 2024 CFARS activity agenda. And remember, everything you do on ham radio is important to us.

73 de KB4LOA  
CFARS Vice President



**Dom NC4XL  
POTA - ATNO K-10406**



Many years ago, David “DOM” Domina and I started out county hunting. We ran counties and chased counties. Many times, we would take off and put out new counties in a quest to finish another county hunter for either a state or mode.

As time went on and everybody got busy, we fell by the wayside in county hunting. There was always an easy reason (excuse) not to be radioactive.

Along came Parks on the Air “POTA.” Little did we know what a great journey we were embarking on. POTA has put enjoyment back into

ham radio for many people.

Dom has been busy activating parks. He has been on a quest to work with as many operators as possible on each activation. For the last few years, POTA has been on hold for adding new parks in the United States. POTA was concentrating on adding DX parks. Finally, the day came to enter new parks. Every POTA operator was excited to see what new parks might be added to their state.

I am the North Carolina Mapping Representative. I maintain the database, add new parks, and answer questions that come up. Lake Rim Fishing and Boating Multiple Use Area K-10406 was added to the North Carolina POTA database of parks. Dom decided to go out and activate the park on the first day it was active in the database.



So, on October 30, 2023, Dom was able to reach a goal. His goal was to activate an ANTO or all time new one. I am happy to say he set the bar high for the first activation with four hundred eighty-one (481) contacts.

Congratulations Dom NC4XL on obtaining an ATNO and a great activation! Hope to be in your logs for many more parks!



**Juan Serra KD2YNP****What motivated you to get licensed?**

I started doing HF back in 2011 with the Marine Corps in Japan, did a couple of low and high-power shots from Okinawa to California for exercises, and set up a few long wires in the Philippines to talk to Korea, Australia, and Japan. After a few years of inactivity, I attended a few courses held by Carl Beane's K4CFB's Company in 2019 and 2021 where he taught us to build antennas and then let us get on the air with their HF Rigs. It sparked an interest in me, and I purchased a radio in 2021 before I ever got licensed as my motivation to not have wasted my money. The Parks on the Air aspect of it was what really drove me to get licensed and upgraded, I

really enjoyed the idea of setting up in new places testing myself and my equipment, and building a kit that was custom-made for me and what I wanted to do. With all the travel I do for work, it really helped to have a hobby I could do while on those trips that could fit inside a backpack and be done just about anywhere.

**When did you started your journey as an Amateur Radio Operator?**

Currently just Parks on the Air and checking into the CFARs net here and there, and other nets when I travel. I'm in the process of upgrading and outfitting my truck to be able to go on multi-day roves incorporated with some camping as I try to accomplish my goal of activating every park in North Carolina. I also recently got into building my own QRP rigs from various suppliers which has been fun.

**What do you currently do with Amateur Radio?**

Currently just Parks on the Air and checking into the CFARs net here and there, and other nets when I travel. I'm in the process of upgrading and outfitting my truck to be able to go on multi-day roves incorporated with some camping as I try to accomplish my goal of activating every park in North Carolina. I also recently got into building my own QRP rigs from various suppliers which has been fun.

**What are the KD4YNP's top three must have tools for Ham Radio?**

Nano VNA- Because I constantly travel and break down and set up my station I need to check my connections are good, that my taps are in the correct place to make up for the ground conditions, or my counterpoise is rolled up to the right spot for the frequency I'm trying to use. Spare Batteries- I do a lot of roves and traveling, and sometimes forget to charge my 20ah, so that 12ah comes in real handy sometimes, the built-in inverter in the truck is also super handy to top off while driving. Electrical Tape- Having a mobile-only station means a lot of plugging and unplugging, tugging, and friction which leads to connectors coming loose now and then.

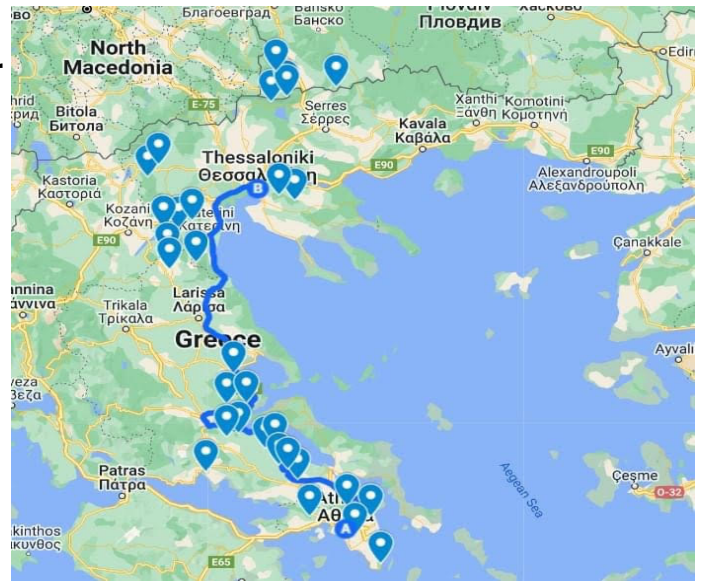
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### What is your dream Parks On The Air activation?

My dream activation was Mount Olympus in Greece. I got to do it after my last deployment, and it was a blast. A 3-hour hike up towards the top and another 2 to get down, with an hour and a half of operating time. Litochoro was a beautiful little town and the hike itself with my backpack was exhausting but so worth it. It rained on and off the entire day, but the views when the clouds cleared out was absolutely beautiful.



### What or who inspires you to get out of bed in the morning?



My family certainly, providing for them is my top priority. And believe it or not, getting in the vehicle in time to check into the morning Possum Trot net is one of my main motivators LOL. Also, supporting my team at USARC HQ. I have been a contractor for over 20 years now and supporting the Soldiers and my team gives me great joy.

### What have been your biggest ham radio achievements within the past 12 months or may be longer?

This is a tough question but I would have to say it was getting Worked all States POTA. Probably because it took the longest to achieve, more than

a year.

### Any ambitions, near or long-term ham radio goals?

I have been heavily into relearning and getting my speed up in CW in order to help more in Field Day and also participate in more CW contests. It's really a fun mode. I also want to activate a park in every state. I'm a long way from achieving that goal but I pick a few off each year so maybe by the time I retire I'll have them all in the log.

## CFARS A Year In Review

A year in training.

I wanted to send out an E-mail as I understand not everyone has FB. So, bear with me as I share a few things that the club has done this year.

There was an event of some kind every month of this year, that is not counting the monthly meeting. BTW, we are missing a lot of you that I did not see at the meeting, and it would be great to see you there. Try finding the time to get out to the club meeting, or event and get back into the fun of Ham radio.

Let's see, where do I start? I guess we would start with the NC QSO party and this year CFARS came in 1<sup>st</sup> place. It looks great on our K4MN - QRZ page. Next, I think was the Rookie Round UP. CFARS came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in that contest with a group of new hams that will come to play hard at Field Day. The Field Day scores came out this month and CFARS had the best year ever coming in 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Nation in the 2A cat. That one does make you sit back and go WOW! Great job team.

Knowing we had done well at the Field Day event, we did not sit back, but we kept training. We did two POTA (Parks on the Air) events at Singletary Lake State Park and had a great time. Using the family cabin, we had cookouts and a big Country breakfast. We ran CW, SSB and Digital at these events. Just learning how to get the antennas up and what was working the best.

We also did two Fox hunts and that was a ton of fun! Once again having a cookout with everyone bringing a little something to cook or eat and that made everyone have more than enough. At each of these events we had 17 to 25 people come out.

While working the POTA event at Lumber River State Park for the POTA weekend, we came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the State. I think we would have won if we had some better weather and had not forgotten that the weekend was a contest as well. Still a great time to hang out and break bread with friends and fellow hams.

Let's not forget the great job the club did at the CFARS swap fest. That was in Aug and a good time to take a break from the heat and enjoy all that was happening at the Shrine Club in the AC! David KI4W did another awesome job of setting this event up and the club did well at it. Thanks to all that helped with the event.

I am sure I am leaving a few events out, but you should get the idea by now. The club has been very active and winning! That brings me to what I think was the most important event for our club of Vet's. Don (WO4SFA) spear headed and was the major lifter in getting "North Carolina Veterans Park" on the Air. It was no easy thing to do. Tons of meetings, Requirements, getting all the moving parts in order and having them all show up at the same time. Then seeing the CFARS team show up before daylight to start the set up. It really tested us to get things up and running. But as always, the Team pulled through and we had two radios up and running in no time. We highlighted the Park, our Veteran's, and our club mates that have served. Thank you all for your service.

Next up is the Christmas Party. I am looking forward to some good food and hanging out with good people. It is always an awesome time. Dates and locations will be out in the newsletter.

The last word from me is just this. We could not have done any of this without working as a team and pulling out the best of what people had to offer. Some were Elmer's, teaching how to work the

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radios and working a pile up. Others were showing how to put antennas up in the trees while others were making sure we stayed safe putting up the towers. Keeping the Generators running and having the power that we needed. Putting up tents to keep us out of the weather. Cooking food so we could relax a bit and enjoy a meal together. Just showing up and asking, "what can I do to help".

My main point in all of this is that each of us has a skill set that we could be sharing to build the club. What is in your toolbox that you could share to make the club even better? Showing others DMR, FT8, PSK, maybe RITTY? Giving a class on CW, we really need help with that. Contact the Space Station. Tons of stuff we can do in Ham radio. We just need you to help.

David Winfree WO4ROG