



Club Officers / Repeaters	3
Dues	3
Club Meeting Minutes	4 - 5
CFARS Nets	6
VE Testing	6
Upcoming Hamfests	6
Chris Ray KR4I	7 - 8
POTA Outing - Lumber River	9
POTA - Maritime Mobile	10

The Vice President's Corner: Hector KB4LOA

Rest in Peace

Keep the Mohr family in your prayers. And we hope for Dale's quick recovery from the passing of his lifetime partner, as well as the flu like symptoms that he has been experiencing. We are deeply sorry for your loss, and know that you're not alone. Nov 3rd We'll gather in order to celebrate the life of Vianne and support the Mohr's family during the military service at the Sandhills cemetery in Fort Bragg. Rest in peace, Mrs Vianne Laura Mohr.

Current Events

The agenda continues to get filled up with ham radio adventures month by month, so we need to continue to shovel coal into the train. The CFARS train doesn't stop as we keep going on our ham radio journey, and for this month we are once again packed with events. VE Testing session on October 14, 2023.



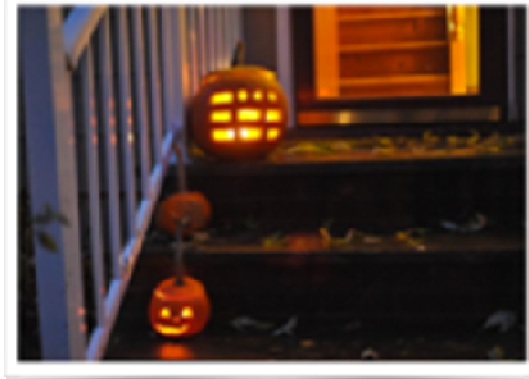
Its already started to smell like pumpkin spice latte, and with it the welcoming of new temperatures, and hopefully the soon to an end, hurricane season 2023. As we come out of the National Preparedness month there are plenty Volunteer opportunities brewing up in the horizon. Nope, The Cumberland County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is getting ready to come up with new equipment and we are willing and able to assist them in any type of way, so we remain in stand by and ready to answer the call. Training Events that we are currently creating to enhance your knowledge include a DMR session (in brief)

followed up by a class which will give you the opportunity to immerse yourselves in the world of digital voice modes, This will be done by Paul K4PGM, one of our club's Net Control Operators (NCO). We'll also have David MCGough K4FXC coming up with several programs including the antenna launcher session (build up of the pneumatic guns), as well as a class on Winlink. The first one is schedule to be conducted during the 2nd day of the Cabin Trifecta weekend (October 13-15 at Singletary Lake.

We have Don Talbot helping us at the Cumberland County level to give you the Airborne and Special Operations Veterans Special Event Station. Updates on this will happen as we get more

details, but we are trying to get it rock solid for November 4th. The expected venue for this event is the Veteran's Parkway Memorial in Fayetteville. This is located in front of the Airborne & Special Ops museum. Local Park On the Air changes are in the air, specially in the threefer area are taking place.

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 advance as a Team. These events are designed to help you find your rhythm, find your pace, so then you can go back to your shack and have a better idea of how to implement those tools and techniques into your personal amateur radio operations. Most of these opportunities require you to bring pens and paper logs, so please keep that in mind.

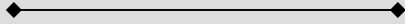
I do not need to wait another month to find the time to tell you how grateful and honored I am to be part of 2023 as an active Cape Fear Amateur Radio Operator. Thanksgiving is right on the corner, but the time to be thankful is everyday. If you are not part of the CFARS Family. I encourage you to do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

Last but not least, don't do Amateur Radio for a season, do it for a reason. That's something that I will highly encourage everyone to do. Mine for this year has been to Volunteer (help and assist). At the beginning of the year we told you that we were adopting the ARRL's slogan- 2023 Year of the Volunteer, and we continue to do so, along with the R3 Concepts (Recruit, Retain & Re-engage into Ham Radio). This has proven to be key for the growth of CFARS. Right now we have a few about to take the VEC session, others are participating of the contest season, and while I type this Dom NC4XL is getting together with our Newsletter Editor and Regional Map Coordinator for the State of NC, Mike Prevatte KN4XP to do another POTA activation. It's wild to just turn on the radio and hear CFARS members all over the spectrum. Go to the main DX Cluster and well known call signs are spotting DX in different modes, and bands. Kudos to you gals and gents.

I can tell you that we have a box full of surprises for the next 82 days, as nothing that we have plan has ever been done before, so if you think that we have been following a trend or using a cookie cutter you are wrong. We will continue to train as our mission in the quest to be better than yesterday will not stop. Are you ready to shovel coal? The CFARS train won't stop. More to follow, and hope to get in contact with everyone soon.

CFARS Officers

PresidentDale 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 davidki4w@gmail.com
 Net Manager.....Larry N4USB lte67@charter.net
 EmergencyJohn Ray KF4JDR jdray.jr88@gmail.com
 ARRL Coordinator..David KI4W davidki4w@gmail.com
 Repeaters.....David K4FXC kb4fxc@inttek.net
 Sky Warn.....Jeremiah KO4VRM jdjfbncphone@gmail.com
 Field Day.....Mike KC4ABE diversoul40@gmail.com
 Health & Welfare...Nina KN4KUL kn4kul@gmail.com
 VEC..Jim K4BUC jbuccieri@twc.com
 SwapfestDavid KI4W davidki4w@gmail.com
 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.





September 2023 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:30 pm, Monday, September 18, 2023, in the Fellowship Hall of the Peace Presbyterian Church, 3203 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC.

Vice President Hector KB4LOA called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Bill KE4DER gave the invocation. Hector KB4LOA led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. There were 34 members and guests present.



Mike KC4ABE moved August's minutes be approved, Bill KJ4OFD 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: Dale Mohr AK4YS, Rick Shanks N1GNF, John Ray KF4JDR, Ron Dahle K4FET, CJ and Lani KQ4BVV.

Repeaters: David K4FXC gave a repeater update. There was an outage on the 440 machine in August due to a storm. Case fan was replaced.

Field Day: No report.

Membership: There were no new members present tonight.

Contesting: No report.

VE Coordinator: Next test session October 14 at Peace Presbyterian church fellowship hall 9:00AM. FRN numbers are required prior to testing, including for first time examinees.

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

Web Site: Any submissions please send to Dale AK4YS. cfarsncweb@gmail.com or mohrd57@gmail.com

ARRL Liaison: No report.

Possum Trot Net: Greg NC4GK is looking for volunteers to call the PT net mornings 0500-0700. Split shifts can be an option.

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 3)

Skywarn: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Program: Garry Crumpler (Cumberland County Emergency Manager) introduced himself and the Cumberland County Emergency Management office. He mentioned the new Emergency Operations Center having an area designated for CFARS/amateur radio. Jeremiah KO4VRM gave a presentation on Winlink.

Upcoming Events:

- October 12-22- JARS @ the NC State Fair
- October 13-15- The Trifecta Fall Challenge @ Singletary Lake State Park
- November 11-NC State Veteran's Park-K4MN Special Event Station
- December 2- Hope Mills Christmas Parade
- December- Eatin' Meetin'
- January 13-15- Winter Field Day
- February 25- The NC QSO Party

Door Prizes: Paul K4PGM won a roll of coax, Chris N4CDJ won a piece of coax with F connectors, Norman K4MGZ won a insulated tumbler, Mike KC4ABE won an MFJ speaker, Mike KC4ABE won a Lenten rose, Fergie KK4MCY won a pack of portable toilet paper.

50/50 Drawing: \$60 collected. Bill KE4DER had the winning ticket of \$30 and donated the money back to the club.

Announcements: CERT team is being redeveloped in Cumberland County. David Winfree WO4ROG is leading the CFARS comms team for the CERT team. The past presidents committee is looking for anyone interested in offices for next year. Eatin' Meetin': Travis KM4JJJ will coordinate for this year's eatin'meetin'.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm. There were thirty-three (33) members and one (1) guest present. Mike KC4ABE motioned to adjourn.

Submitted: Jeremy Gilchrist KN4JUY

CFARS Nets

Upcoming Hamfests

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

November 19, 2023

Jarsfest
Benson, North Carolina
jars.net

March 8 - 9, 224

Charlotte Hamfest
Concord, North Carolina
charlottehamfest.org

Rarsfest

April 6, 2024
Raleigh, North Carolina
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
October 14 th 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>.

2024 VE Testing Schedule

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

Chris Ray- KR4I



What motivated you to get licensed?

Before I started into Ham Radio I thoroughly enjoy electronics. Having just completed my Associates Degree from CCCC in Sanford in Electronics Engineering back in 1998, I already knew much of the material on the Technician exam from my studies at school, so it was easy to pass the Tech for me. I was into Citizen Band radio throughout high school and after Tech School I worked with my now very good friend Jeramy KG4AZT who knew this, and pushed me to go for my first Ham license. I also liked to tinker and repair radio equipment so Ham radio was perfect for me. Through the 90s I had a reputation for somewhat of a golden screwdriver working on my buddies CB radios and tube amplifiers which at the time I didn't really understand; most of the equipment was illegally converted Ham gear.

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

I was licensed in 1999 as a Technician at age 21 as KG4FMI. At the time there was still a requirement for 5 WPM code test to get your General license so I studied and listened to code tapes and was able to pass the General test at the JARS Hamfest the next year and managed to change to get the vanity call K4FMI soon after (and now KR4I as of June 2023). I didn't have all the apps and access to the internet back then so I was limited to the code tapes or maybe they were CDs... I remember driving down the highway and converting road signs to Morse Code to practice. Soon after upgrading to General, I put together a modest station with a G5RV as my primary HF antenna. Soon after, the G5RV took a direct lightning strike and started a fire on my radio desk that destroyed everything. I took a step back from ham radio and never really got on HF again for over 15 years. I got back into the hobby in late 2019 with a dual band vhf/uhf radio in my truck and it has really snowballed from there.

What do you currently do with Amateur Radio?

I like Parks on the Air, mostly hunting. I do activate parks from time to time. I have an IC-705 which I really like, and a couple of antennas for that purpose. I also enjoy contesting, mostly casually. I have done well in the state QSO parties with a 2nd place in the 2022 NCQP single op low power NCQP and 6th in the same category in 2023. I scored 1st place in the 2022 PAQP Single Op low power for North Carolina participants. I most recently submitted my log for the NAQP CW contest with 102 contacts. Not a winning number of Qs by any stretch, but I had a lot of fun participating. I also like to build antennas having a few home brew end fed half waves in the air and several that I have built for friends. I also enjoy getting new countries in the log. I have about 160 total and some day I hope to have worked all countries.

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued from Page 6)

What are the KR4I's top three must have tools for Ham Radio?

Good operating techniques is probably my number one tool. Being a good, thoughtful, and courteous operator will save a lot of time and aggravation for all involved. That could be techniques for working POTA pile ups, working splits on a rare dx stations, or simply listening to whomever you are trying to contact to see what they are asking for or saying. It really boils down to knowing what you are doing and how to do it properly and listening. Second, a good portable end fed half wave antenna, they are great and can quickly and easily be deployed. Last, for me, would be a good antenna analyzer for my portable setup. Its a tool I use a lot and my go to model is a Nano VNA because of its wide sweep range. Trying to dial in a Wolf River coil with the radio's built in SWR meter can be time consuming and frustrating when using a analyzer it takes just minutes to dial in a portable antenna.

What is your dream Parks On The Air activation?

I guess it's not a dream activation but activating a park in Hawaii or maybe America Samoa would be a lot of fun. Like the recent activation of K-0053 in America Samoa by KH8RRC, sounded like a lot of fun and excitement for hunters and the activators.

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

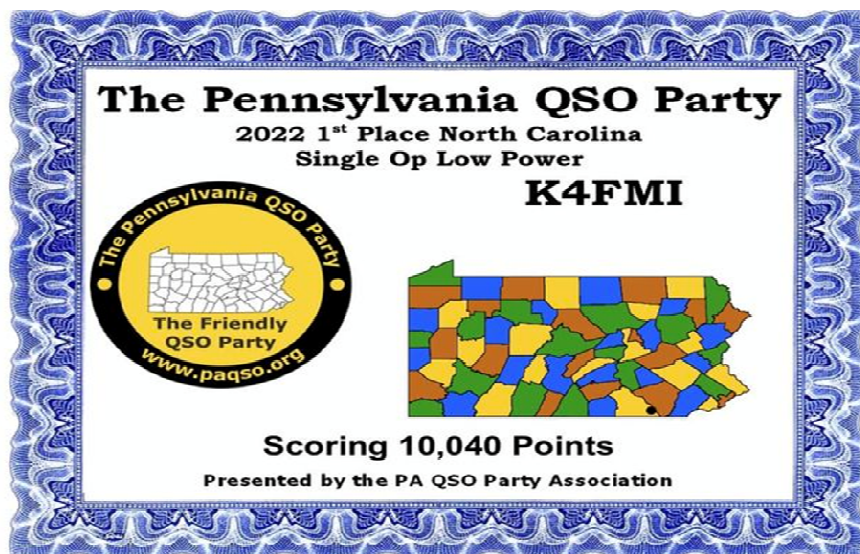
My family certainly, providing for them is my top priority. And believe it or not, getting in the vehicle in time to check into the morning Possum Trot net is one of my main motivators LOL. Also, supporting my team at USARC HQ. I have been a contractor for over 20 years now and supporting the Soldiers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



**Lumber River State Park K-2742
Wagram NC**



Though out this year CFARS and SARC have been hosting events together except for August where we all went to the CFARS swapfest. This month we were at K-2742, Lumber River State Park for Parks on the Air, just outside of Wagram.

Even with the threat of rain, we had 17 hams show up and we had two HF radios going and some VHF as well. Dale was the grill master and did a great job as always. Nina did a great job on bringing the caveman food for us and the pork chop sandwiches were great along with the hotdogs and hamburgers. Rod bought the chips and cookies and once again this event cost the club zero! Thanks to all the ones that reached in their pocket so we

all could have a great time.

Radios? We had my FT-891 hooked up to an End Fed antenna that I had hung in the trees about 70 feet on one end and 60 feet on the other. I did find that I was having trouble making contacts at first. I checked the setting on the radio, Checked the SWR and all looked good. I pulled the antenna down and changed out the Coax to a 50-foot roll and that shortened the coax by 50 feet. That is when everything went to work. We learn by doing and by training the trainer. I made my needed number of contacts, and my station was good to go to stop and go eat.

Hector set up the club radio under the tents we had set up to cover the tables where we were going to eat. He got a ton of contacts and had his end/fed up around 60 to 40 feet. It was working great and even ran some DX. (QSO Cards have been sent out).

Rich came by and worked the river and was trying to catch us something to eat as well. Sam came from SC to hang out with us, and it was neat to see his trailer Solar panel set up. It looked good. The food was great! Working the radios was spot on. Training was done to make us better Operators. The best part was hanging out with friends that enjoy ham radio!

Next Event is Singletary Lake State Park, Oct 13-15th. Our club push will be on Saturday the 14th.

David Winfree WO4ROG



Bird Island Reserve State Conservation Area K-3850

You ever wonder how things get done? Well, when it comes to POTA it comes down to who is off work and can get free to head to a park. We started talking about a park we would like to do. I heard one of our members talking about Bird Island. This made me look it up and see where it was and what it would take to get there and on the air.



First it is not the friendliest of places to go. You either walk there or go by boat. Our first plan was to find a parking spot close as we could and then walk about 1.5 miles there and then back. Carrying what we needed to get on the air. This led to me thinking light. One bag with radio, tuner, End Fed, Battery box.

The next thing Rod and I did was to test out something I heard George KM4ODS and RON K4FET talking about burying antennas. We laid the Endfed, My antenna flat on the ground across my front yard and did a test with the radio tuned up. First contact was CO, then NY, TN, France and England. I have to say it blew me away that it worked.

Now with a couple of ideas in my head on the how, and where, when and why we were off and planning. Next thing heard was that we all like to fish. We had to take poles and get some fishing in while we were at the Island. That lead to, "I have a boat". We will take it and be Marine Mobile. Now to put together a crew. We started making phone calls to see who wanted to go and who could get away to go. We ended up with a great crew of hams. Hector KB4LOA, Jeremy KN4JUY, Rod KQ4FNO and I WO4ROG.

Once we got going, I asked would they like to stop for breakfast. Agreed and voted on and off to Parkton Grill we went for a fast lip greasing and some good coffee, and we were off again. Next stop was at my daughter's house where I keep one of my boats. 21' Center console. I took one of my antennae mounts off the truck and we put it on the Tee Top of the boat. Once that was done, we went off and running to the beach. Once we got there all the boat ramps were full and it did not look good. But we found one by Ocean Isle and got the boat in the water.

Next was to head south to Bird Island and find a place to set up. I looked at the map to be sure we were in the boundary of the park and the anchor went out. It was time to set up the antenna. I picked out my Chameleon antenna that is a vertical. It is 16 feet tall. We were 1:1 on SWR on 20 meters and 1:2 on 40 meters. Now we are set up and working contacts all over the world. Right at 200 in the log, all the time we were taking turns on the radio and passing the mike while we were fishing at the same time. We did catch some Spots and Crockers and had a great time.

Next outing may be back to Bald Head Island. We may plan this one a little better. But all in all, in three days we were planned and in the water. It was my first-time working POTA from a boat, and it was a blast. One lady was so excited that she contacted a boat that she forgot how to talk for a min.

It was a great trip with a few hiccups but a great time and a first for all of us. No telling what we will get into next. But if your phone rings. You just may want to pick it up. It could be an adventure.

Radio- FT891, Tuner LDG Z-100A (did not use it), Battery box was home made by WO4ROG with a 16-amp hour battery and a 100 -amp hour in parallel with it. Logging was my paper log. One thing I forgot was the 20 AH battery that I wanted to use. I left it by the charging station at the house. But we never dipped in power once.