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## **The President's Corner: David WD4NC**

Once again, the club members have been very busy. There is always something to do with CFARS. We started off this month testing antennas and coaxes at the Cumberland County shelters. Rod KQ4FNO took the lead on this project and put a team together to get the job done. The test was done and the antennas were painted Sky Blue to give them protection from the Sun they need and should last a while longer. So far, they have all been good to go. We moved one antenna, and the crew remounted it at W.T. Brown in Spring Lake. The only hard part was the 105-degree heat. Thank you all that came out to help and the ones that took the calls off the repeater and simplex.

We have been trying to add a program to the meetings as well and Bob (KL7NL) and crew did a great job of telling us about CW. Where it came from by David (KI4W), Dale (AK4YS) told us about how he got into CW and how to study for it. Chris (KR4I) talked about history and what got him into CW and the mistakes he made learning. Bob gave the final word, and it was to not give up. Keep working at it and before long. You will have it. CW is a very important part of the club and we need to train up some new operators to keep this going.

We have been busy as well getting ready for Field Day. Going over the rules. Working on Hex Beams, Fixing the loops, and making plans on where to put what. I should be able to brief how we did at the next meeting July 21 at 7 PM. So far this week the bands have not been too good, and I pray that they are wide open this weekend.

July and August we are going to slow down just a little bit and looking forward to the CFARS Swap Fest coming up August the 9<sup>th</sup>. I hope we get a great turn out for this event and post this up on your pages and on the nets, you check into.

August 30<sup>th</sup> at 3pm we will be going to Fayetteville State University to look at the Stars! All members are invited to come out to the new Planetarium. Another cool event and something different. Talk about Moon bounce. This will help us understand our aim and how the Sun is looking as well. I personally am looking forward to this event.

We have also added a new net into the lineup. The CFARS Saturday night 40 meters net. It starts right after the 7 PM 2m CFARS net on Saturday nights. Frequency will be announced during the net

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and on Face Book live that I have been hosting during the net. I hope you all have been enjoying that as well. This net is new and doing well with 21 check-ins on the 1<sup>st</sup> one and 18 on the second. I can see it growing and I hope to get more of you in my log. The key word in this note is to stay cool. I am sure glad we were inside and in the AC for Field Day. Those 100-degree days are being rough and indoors made it a lot nicer. Thank you all for what you do for the club.

### **North Carolina State Fair Ham Radio Operators Needed**

CFARS Members: If you are interested in volunteering for the NC State Fair Ham Radio Exhibit please contact Travis Russell KN4WJL. Your admission will be covered. Additional details are below.

“CQ CQCQ, all NC ham radio operators! The NC Ham Radio Exhibit is now actively seeking volunteers to help us demonstrate the value of ham radio to our communities. The NC State Fair has graciously provided us a place to setup our exhibit and provide this valuable message to the attendees of the fair! This exhibit in the past has been a huge success, logging more than 2300 visitors last year!

Bring your HT, pack a lunch, and come on out to the NC State Fair Oct 16th-26th. Parking is free, and your admission will be taken care of. Everyone who has volunteered in the past tells me how much they enjoyed volunteering! We had 9 clubs represented from all over the state. Sign up and represent your club and meet colleagues from other clubs.

A FAQ sheet is attached giving you lots of information on what to expect. If you have any other questions, contact Travis Russell (KN4WJL@proton.me) or call Travis at 919-518-6557.

All you need to do is sign up!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44ADAB22A5FECE9-57352662-nchamradio>

Travis Russell  
KN4WJL  
(919) 518-6557”

**Contributed by Chris Ray KR4I CFARS Recorder**



**From The Vice President  
Rod KQ4FNO**

Well we said June would be a busy month, what we didn't expect, or ask for, were the high temperatures! So what were we able to do this month? Started off with a walk-through of the Field Day site, which also jumpstarted some thoughts. Then a small contingent of the club took off to the USS North Carolina. This small contingent required our breakfast location to run out and buy more eggs, as we had 27 people all told! Of those 17 were operators. I do believe that a great time was had by all that attended this trip.

So having accomplished that mission the next one was an ENCOM exercise from the current "Shelter locations". Why is that in quote marks? Because it was not set up by the EOC so we stayed out of the shelters themselves and used parking lots close to them instead, remember we don't want to get in the way of anyone.

Next up we were doing maintenance on the shelter communications, check SWR and making a repeater contact. Instrumental in accomplishing this were AI4TS, KQ2L, KR4EKK, N4ESA, NC4PB, WD4NC and WO2COU. From June 23 to June 30 we checked all 7 shelters, removing an antenna from one location and reinstalling it at another location! Important lessons learned include "do not change antenna locations during summer heat!" Also painting antennas is also best done during cooler weather. Working with the EOC for this shelter check allowed us to learn more about the shelter operation than we knew before.

Now came the hard part! In high heat conditions we loaded the trailer with all the equipment for Field Day on the Friday prior. Of special; note is that we loaded everything we needed and we didn't have to go back for anything! Go Team! Saturday we met at the SFG Compound at 0700, and we were all there! Fixing antennas, laying power cords, marking "no go areas", setting up the generators and the "welcome Desk", and we were finished long before our start time of 1400 hours! The work crews did a great job under the hot sun! Lunch was served and everyone was pleased with the selection of food available, or at least I didn't hear of any complaints! Just to show how good we are we had the site broken down and out of the compound by 1600 hours. The equipment trailer was taken to the shed and we downloaded the equipment before we went home. We also took the club antenna trailer back to the EOC and prepped it for some maintenance we will do shortly.

The results from Field Day will be available by the next meeting, and David will tell us how we did then. I would like to personally thank all of you that came to Field Day with the intent of making it as best as we could. Lani, you did a fine job of monitoring the Welcome desk, and keeping an eye out for guests. Hector, Chris, Juan and Laird, thank you for being section chiefs. Mike, you did a good job as Safety and David McG once again had our logging setup and working well. David also operated a major portion of our 6M station on FT8/FT4, looking forward to the results of that. Walter did great on 2M. I know I have missed some that did yeoman work during FD, and I apologize if I missed you, just know that all of the club members did a great job throughout the weekend.

Now what? We have a short time to relax a little. Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>, we have EOC training at 1600 to 1900, and that looks to be great. There is a small celebration to commemorate Great Britain letting you go your own way on the 4<sup>th</sup>! 30<sup>th</sup> August we will have our planetarium visit, and that should be an experience for all of us! Come the fall we will look to changing out another School antenna and paint those that we missed this go around (due to heat, not memory!).

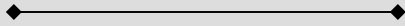
Thank you all for your participation and hope to see you all again soon.

Rod MacLean, KQ4FNO



## CFARS Officers

President .....David WD4NC    davidwinfree02@gmail.com  
 Vice Pres.....Rod KQ4FNO    kq4fno@gmail.com  
 Sec./Treas.....Mike KC4ABE    diversoul40@gmail.net  
 Recorder.....Chris KR4I    kr4i@arrl.net



## Coordinators

Newsletter Editor...Mike KN4XP kn4xp@yahoo.com  
 Membership.....David KI4W davidki4w@gmail.com  
 Net Manager.....Larry N4USB lte67@charter.net  
 Emergency .....Jeremiah N0NV jdjfbncphone@gmail.com  
 ARRL Coordinator..David K4FXC kb4fxc@inttek.net  
 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  
 Swapfest .....David KI4W davidki4w@gmail.com  
 Public Info.....Dale AK4YS mohrd57@gmail.com  
 Contest Coord.....Juan NK2MC jserra131@gmail.com  
 Webmaster.....Jim K4BUC jbuccieri@twc.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 \$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.



### **June 2025 Club Meeting Minutes**

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:00 pm, Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup> 2025, in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Presbyterian Church, 3202 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC.

President David Winfree WD4NC called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Bill gave the invocation. David WD4NC led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. There were 47 members and guests present.



David WD4NC asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the meeting minutes from May's meeting? He asked if there was a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May? Tracy AI4TS moved April's minutes be approved, Juan NK2MC seconded, the club voted in favor by show of hands and the motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Mike KC4ABE gave the financial report.

**Net Manager:** Larry N4USB reported May net report: 718 check ins for an average of 23.6, 1011 minutes for an average of 32.6 and 29 pieces of traffic.

**Health & Welfare:** David WD4NC gave the welfare report.

**Repeaters:** David K4FXC the repeaters are working well.

**Field Day:** 15 club CFARS members met at the SFA compound on June 7<sup>th</sup> to look at our setup for field day. We then discussed the following: Generators the club members will provide generators. Ed N4ESA will be power chief. Antennas CW – 80M loop and club tower with hexbeam. GOTA – 80M loop and a hex beam. SSB – 80-10 EFHW and (possibly a hexbeam). VHF – 6M beam and VHF/UHF vertical. Food - Saturday morning is on you for breakfast. Lunch various folks will be bringing food. Evening meal is up for grabs, let us know if you will bring something. Sunday breakfast is on you. Lunch – We will be starting to shut down some antennas and towers, so food will probably be on you. Radio Chiefs - SSB – Hector KB4LOA, VHF – Juan NK2MC, CW – David KI4W and GOTA – Rick N1GNK.

**Membership:** David KI4W had 2 new members to vote in Jon KO4OXE and Parker KQ4RCC. Dale AK4YS made a motion to approve these new members, KE4DER Bill seconded, the club voted in favor and the motion was carried. If you haven't paid your 2025 dues yet it is not too late. Dues can be mailed to the club's post office box, paid at the meeting, or paid on Zelle through the club's website. Reminder emails have been sent out to those who did not renew for 2025. Our numbers will be updated on the ARRL website soon so help us keep them up. If you are in doubt contact David KI4W or Mike KC4ABE and we will let you know your status with the club.

**Contesting:** No report.

**VE Coordinator:** Jim K4BUC the next VE test session will be August 9<sup>th</sup> at the Shrine Club, Bring an FRN number. Check the CFARS website for additional details.

**Swapfest:** David KI4W CFARS 25<sup>TH</sup> anniversary SwapFest will be August 9<sup>th</sup> this year. We have confirmed we do have the building and the event is a go so no surprises like we had last year. We will set up the tables the day before. When that time is confirmed we will put it out and need about four volunteers to help with the set up. The doors will open at 6:30am the next day for vendors to

set up. We will need two volunteers to be stationed outside to only let vendors in until we open to the public at 8:00. The Swapfest flyer is on the CFARS website and Facebook page. Please feel free to email and share with anyone. Emails have been sent out around the state to various clubs so they can put it out at their meetings and include it in their correspondence with their members. If you need any information contact David KI4W. Please come out and support your club's hamfest.

**Public Relations:** Hector KB4LOA continue posting ham radio and club activity on the CFARS Facebook page.

**Emergency Coordinator:** Jeremiah KO4VRM, Greg NC4GK, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday night is Skywarn night.

**Newsletter:** Any submissions please send to Mike KN4XP by end of month, ideally in Microsoft Word format. [cfarsnews@gmail.com](mailto:cfarsnews@gmail.com). Emails and .pdf files are difficult to format for the newsletter.

**Deadline for submissions is the last day of the month.**

**Web Site:** Any submissions please send to Jim K4BUC. Jim asked that anyone having pictures to put on the website send them to him. [jbuccieri@twc.com](mailto:jbuccieri@twc.com)

**ARRL Liaison:** David K4FXC is still working with the ARRL.

**Possum Trot Net:** Greg NC4GK the PT net continues 5:00 am to 7:00 am.

**Skywarn:** No report.

**Event Coordinator:** Rod KQ4FNO reported ARRL Field Day is June 28 and 29. Aug 30 Planetarium visit at Fayetteville State University, Saturday and 3pm.

**Emergency Coordinator:** Jeremiah, Greg NC4GK, every 2nd Tuesday night is Skywarn night.

**Old Business:** USS NC Museum Ships on the air event, 25 CFARS Hams went to the event. The State approved our 501 c(3) now must get it through the Federal government, and IRS. Rod has requested a new EIN number. We should get a letter from the IRS certifying we are 501 c(3). This will allow the club to get donations that are not available to a 501 c(7) organization. We had an EOC drill Saturday 14 June. It went well, but we need relay stations for simplex. This can be done from home by anyone so please participate if you have a base 2 meter radio. Help needed for testing antenna at the shelters (schools). The antennas and coax are already there. Take the coax down and test the system and then make a contact with it.

**New Business:** David WD4NC asked if the club cared if we bought the paint for the shelter antennas. The club voted and approved the measure.

**Program:** Bob KL7NL provided a CW talk and a discussion and learning exercise on CW and techniques to learn it. Dale AK4YS talked about his experience learning Morse Code. Dave KI4W spoke about what CW means (Continuous Wave). Chris KR4I talked about why he learned CW.

**Announcements:** None.

**Door Prize Drawing:** Don KO4IHM won a flatbed scanner, Bill KE4JDR won a USB charger, and coax, Jim K4BUC won a Tool bag, Rod KQ4FNO won something, Joe W3OJO won a chocolate bar, Pete K4QFK won blueberries, NC4PB won Coax, KQ4BVV Lone won snacks, Jeremy KB4D won coax and a pin, Jon KO4OXE won Coax, Bob KL7NL won snacks, Ed N4ESA won a tow ball, Louis KQ2L won a map of NC and Tim W4HDF won a flatbed scanner and a computer case.

**50/50 Drawing:** \$124 collected, Bill KE4JDR had the winning ticket won \$62.

**Adjournment:** Tim KO4VEC made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Pete K4QSK seconded, the club voted and the motion was carried. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9 PM.

Submitted: Chris KR4I CFARS 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

**July 12, 2025**

Firecracker Hamfest  
Salisbury, North Carolina

**August 9, 2025**

25th Annual CFARS Swapfest  
Fayetteville, North Carolina  
[cfarsnc.com](http://cfarsnc.com)

**August 30 - 31**

Shelby Hamfest  
Shelby, North Carolina  
[shelbyhamfest.com](http://shelbyhamfest.com)

## CFARS VE Testing

The 2025 VE exams will take place at one of these two locations - as noted.

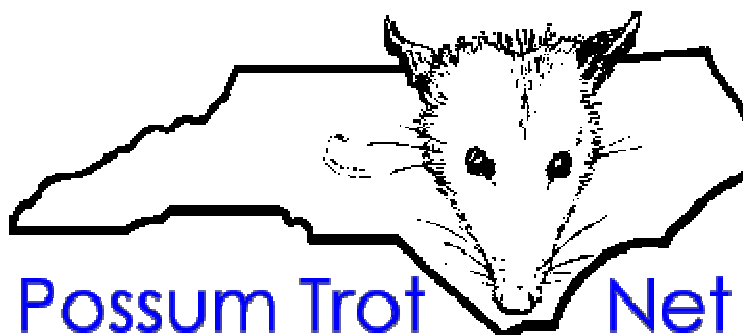


Peace Presbyterian Church  
3203 Ramsey Street  
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Cumberland County Shrine Club  
7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville NC 28311

### Dates:

August 9, 2025 - Cumberland County Shrine Club  
October 11, 2025 - Peace Presbyterian Church



**QRP****Mike KN4XP**

So you have decided you want to try POTA (Parks On The Air). It looks like fun! You gather up your equipment including rig, antenna, battery, coax and other supplies you think you will need. You load it all into some type of bag, whether it be a backpack or other carrying bag. You get ready to head out. You find out it sure weighs an awful lot.

Now if you are operating out of your vehicle weight is not necessarily a factor. Or even if there is a short walk from the parking lot to a park bench or picnic table even the better. If you are going to a wildlife area most likely you will not find these creature comforts. So, you grab your backpack and trek into the woods till you find just the right spot. Boy this pack sure is heave. Next time I must cut down the weight. I am getting old and my knees don't like the extra weight and effort to find just the right spot.

Here is where QRP can come in handy. Weight is a factor. When you consider the weight of the radio, battery, antenna and coax QRP can help reduce your load. An average 100 watt rig can weigh between four and twelve pounds. My QRP rig weighs less than one pound. If you are using a Lifepo4 battery they weigh less and have a longer usage time. In my ham gear I have lifepo4 batteries that range from 6ah to 100ah. I know 100ah is normally overkill but there is a time when you will appreciate it. Normally if I am not running QRP I carry two (2) 16ah lifepo4 batteries with me. I recently bought a 6ah battery. It is small and light weight. I have used it several times and I am not sure when it will need a charge.

As hams, we normally carry more equipment than we will use. There is nothing like getting to that perfect location and either not having the right piece of equipment or needing to make a change. A good example was I took a QRP rig out when used a bnc connector. Guess what I forgot to bring. So the backup rig had to be pulled out. It used normal pl-259 connectors. I have even heard horror stories of hams forgetting to carry the power cable for their rig. I guess this is why hams carry extras so they are sure to have all of the needed equipment and supplies. Remember all of this adds extra weight.

QRP operation is a way to cut down on the weight. You normally can get by with less stuff. If your antenna is resonant, then no tuner is needed. You can get by with smaller coax such as RG-316. I keep extra in my vehicle in case of unforeseen issues. I just don't always trek into the woods with all of it.

So if you are looking to backpack in, either to a great spot or maybe a summit or trail, give QRP some thought. Your back and legs may appreciate it.

See you on the air soon!

Mike KN4XP



**AUXCOMM / EOC**

I am happy to say a lot of the club has joined to help with supporting the EOC of Cumberland County. Rod KQ4FNO and crew have been busy testing the gear at the Shelters and so far, we are good to go. We have moved one antenna to a new location and have reinstalled and tested them. We are about 75% done with the testing we are doing.

What we are doing is finding and testing the coax and the antennas to be sure they are still good to use. This also includes repainting the antenna and any repairs we may find that need to be handled. We are going to cut off the ends on the Coax and pull the coax to a new location in the buildings and then repair the coax and retest it. This also means taking a 24 foot step ladder to get on the top floor of two buildings.

Few notes:

North Carolina uses AUXCOMM. With that we use the ICS system to work with the EOC. We are part of the Eastern Region of the State, and we do not self-Deploy. If we are called on to help the County, the leadership will get a call, and they will send out a word to the ECOMM group of what we are doing and where. We do not need any Lone Rangers but team players.

I plan on putting up an FB team Chat and you must have completed the ICS 100 and 200 at least. These courses are free and online based. At this point, it is the best way to get information and answer questions without having to answer the same questions by email 50 times.

We are starting our training at the EOC and will continue until we are up to speed on how and what we need to be doing to help. It was great to see the State of North Carolina push out Ham radio ECOMM week during Field Day weekend. This shows that the State is seeing what we are doing and what we have to offer. We know we can do the work, we just must learn the how and why they want things to work the way they want it. Once again, by working as a team, we can get this done.

The club tower is now parked at the EOC where it is better protected and easier to get to and more center of town. We are having to replace the main Jack on the trailer and we are keeping it PM as well. As we find something that must be fixed, we are getting right on it. There is always something to do in CFARS and we could use your help.

David Winfree /WD4NC

*25th Anniversary Edition*

# CFARS SwapFest

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

[www.cfarsnc.org](http://www.cfarsnc.org)

Fayetteville, North Carolina

**Saturday August 9, 2025**

**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**

**Information and Table Reservations:**

**David KI4W [davidki4w@gmail.com](mailto:davidki4w@gmail.com)**

**910-624-1394**

**VE Test Session Walk-ins Only Registration 9:00am Testing 9:30am**

**ARRL VE Testing: Jim K4BUC [jbuccieri@twc.com](mailto:jbuccieri@twc.com)**

**910-309-5218**

**Set-up begins at 6:30am. Only vendors inside before 8:00am. 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!!!***

***An ARRL Sanctioned Event***