



# QST NFL



*Providing timely and interesting information to Radio Amateurs in North Florida*

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2015

## **Steve's Take:**

***From the NFL Section Manager, Steve Szabo WB4OMM***

A really quiet month!

January 1<sup>st</sup> has come and gone - the "official" start of 2015. I started back at UCF Daytona and the Police Department (Daytona Speedway Races) so there is no doubt in my mind the holidays are over!

Our Division Convention, "***The premiere Amateur Radio event in the Southeast***" is quickly approaching! Orlando Hamcation 2015 starts in two weeks, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday – February 13, 14, and 15<sup>th</sup> – at the Central Florida Fairgrounds in Orlando. On Saturday from 12:15pm to 1:15pm, there is scheduled Forum for the North Florida Section hosted by yours truly; immediately following is a Southeastern Division Forum hosted by SE Division Director Doug Rehman K4AC and Vice Director Mike Lee AA6ML from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. Members of the ARRL staff will also be present and will have a booth. Stop by and say hello!

I will be at Hamcation all three days. Look for me! I won't be hard to find!

This month's Newsletter will be short, as I am still looking for a Newsletter editor to take over. Please consider this important position if you have some basic skills, or at least the inclination.

See you at Hamcation!

***EVERYONE COUNTS!***

***73, Steve WB4OMM***

## ***No Editorial This Month!***

## ***STILL Looking for a Newsletter Editor!!***

Our initial editor, Harry K2BBM, has resigned as he moving from the section. If you have a few hours to spare, a computer with Microsoft Windows, and an imagination, consider taking the job!

The pay is great (none), benefits terrific (none), and opportunity for advancement stellar (none)!

Zip Steve WB4OMM an e-mail if you are interested..... [wb4omm@arrl.net](mailto:wb4omm@arrl.net)

## ***Looking for a Webmaster too!!***

When I was elected, our Webmaster, Ed W9CHA, wanted to step down back in July but agreed to stay for a while and run the NFL Webpage; he has done wonders with our website!! Thanks Ed!!! He has now asked to be able to step down soon, so we will need a replacement. Just like the Newsletter Editor, if you have a few hours to spare, a computer with Microsoft Windows, and an imagination, consider taking the job!

Zip Steve WB4OMM an e-mail if you are interested..... [wb4omm@arrl.net](mailto:wb4omm@arrl.net)

## ***The Traders Net***

The Traders Net meets every Sunday at 8:00 AM on 3.933 MHz. Please join us for equipment and friendship. Thanks!! Carl, AA4MI

## ***QCWA Chapter #45***

QCWA Citrus Chapter 45 operates its state of the art repeater, W4PLA, on 147.195 MHz and conducts a net every Tuesday evening at 7:30 PM local time. Also we now offer an Echo link connection every Tuesday. The link is "W2AS-L" and the node # is 627152. If you are a QCWA member (any chapter!) feel free to join us!

## Special Event Station N4DAB Commemorates Daytona 500

### Special Event Station Announcement

57th Annual Daytona 500 – Speedweeks 2015

Feb 14-Feb 22, N4DAB, Daytona Beach, FL.

Daytona Beach CERT Amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW SSB DIGITAL (PKS31, RTTY, JT65). Several stations participating and on the air simultaneously. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 each day local time as operators are available.



Frequencies announced via spotting networks as station activates and posted on the club website. QSL card and Commemorative Certificate available. QSL and Certificate information will be published on our web site [www.daytonacert.net](http://www.daytonacert.net) as costs and permissions (logos) are confirmed. (Also under N4DAB in [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) ).

For more information, contact Steve WB4OMM at: [wb4omm@arrl.net](mailto:wb4omm@arrl.net)

## ***From the ARRL***

### ***FCC "Paperless" Amateur Radio License Policy Goes into Effect on February 17***

(An abbreviated version of ARRL Bulletin ARLB004 issued January 29<sup>th</sup>)

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC has continued to print and mail hard copy licenses. In mid-December the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had proposed in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. **The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization - as well as an unofficial "reference copy" - from the ULS License Manager.**

The ULS License Manager now includes settings that allow licensees to notify the WTB that they prefer to receive official authorizations on paper. Once the final procedures go into effect designating electronic access as the default, licensees can change the ULS License Manager setting so that the Bureau will print and mail a license document. Licensees also may contact FCC Support via the web at, [http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact\\_fcc\\_support](http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact_fcc_support) , or via telephone or mail to request paper licenses.

## ***“Operation Santa Delivery” is a Success***

From Jeff Capehart, W4UFL, Gainesville Amateur Radio Society

GARS has participated in this event for 3 years now. Operation Santa Delivery is organized by LifeSouth to bring Santa by helicopter to a kid-themed event. There are bounce houses, finger painting, petting zoo, and of course Santa after he arrives. GARS sets up a canopy and table with a portable station so that the kids can talk to Santa via ham radio until the helicopter arrives. For the remainder of the event, the kids can talk to Mrs. Claus or the elves at the North Pole.

Over the three hours of the 2014 event we had about 60 kids, ranging in age from 3-15 years, make a contact over ham radio. A dozen hams helped by doing setup, operating, facilitating, and providing air-to-ground communications and crowd control during the helicopter landing.

GARS will be participating again in 2015 for Operation Santa Delivery, as well as these public service events throughout the year in Gainesville, Florida: LifeSouth for the Five Points of Life Marathon in February, the March for Babies Walk in March, and the Veteran's Day Ceremony in November.



***GARS “Operation Santa Delivery***

## ***First Annual “Novice Rig Roundup”***

A week of amateur radio activity in February of 2015 where you can contact stations using vintage ham radio equipment from the early era of the NOVICE LICENSE. Any licensed radio amateur may participate.

It's time to take those old radios off the dusty shelf and put them on the desk! Bring out your straight key or bug. Do you have 1950 - 1970s era amateur radio equipment? Maybe you never lived through the novice era but you would like to know how it felt. Or how it sounded to communicate through the crackle, spark, spurt, splutter, drift and chirp of those earlier tube-era radios. Perhaps you would just like to hear some of the older rigs in action. Well, this is your chance! You may use ANY radio equipment you like, but the scoring will be higher for using real novice-era radios!

**DATES:** 0000 UTC FEB 7 until 0000 UTC FEB 14, 2015)

**EXCHANGE:** RST, NAME, QTH, RIG, XTAL or VFO, POWER

**BANDS:** 80m, 40m, 15, 10, 2m bands only

**CATEGORIES** by POWER OUTPUT LEVEL:

5 WATTS Maximum = QRP LEVEL

45 WATTS Maximum = NOVICE LEVEL

Above 45 Watts = GENERAL LEVEL

**SCORING:**

- 1) Other station using Novice rig with CRYSTAL CONTROL = 3 points.
- 2) Other station using novice rig with VFO = 2 points.
- 3) Other station is using NON-Novice era rig = 1 Point.

**AWARDS:** Antique style certificate with your score for all entrants. Everyone who submits a log will receive a quality certificate for participation. Special award certificate for highest score in each category.

**For more information :** <http://novicerigroundup.com/>

Northern Florida Section Web Page:

<http://arrl-nfl.org/>

