



QST NFL



Providing timely and interesting information to Radio Amateurs in North Florida

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March 2015

Steve's Take:

From the NFL Section Manager

A big "Welcome" to Floyd KK3Q who has graciously accepted the Newsletter Editor's position. And another hearty "Welcome" to Bert N8NN who has accepted the Webmaster position. Special thanks to Ed W9CHA who has worked tirelessly in the background for years on the NFL web. THANK YOU ED!

The Orlando Hamcation has come and gone, and by the looks of everyone I saw, it was a great success! I was happy to see standing room only (and outside the tent!) for the NFL Section Forum! Thanks for your support! I met many NFL folks and enjoyed my three day visit. The OARC treated me like royalty!!

KUDOS to the OARC for an excellent event!

There was a meeting on the Friday of Hamcation with all three Florida Section Managers and the State of Florida EM folks....see the article in this Newsletter for the discussions and ideas that came out of this historic meeting!

I am looking forward to attending the Playground ARC's Hamfest in Ft. Walton Beach on the weekend of March 21 and 22. Look for me and say, "hello". I have also started to list my "visits" so everyone can see me make my way around the Section. (Page 6).

Thank you for your continued support. I feel honored to represent you!

EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Steve WB4OMM

Editorial:

From the QST NFL Newsletter Editor

Who could turn down such an attractive job offer such as the one put out for a newsletter editor:

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

So here I am earning my pay and benefits while awaiting advancement opportunities. My name is Floyd Larck and my call sign is KK3Q. My current QTH is Bushnell in Sumter County. My wife Debbie (N3DCJ) and I moved from Orlando out to a quieter environment near the end of 2014. I work mostly the digital and CW modes with an occasional foray onto phone for special events and DXpeditions.

Speaking of DXpeditions, K1N. What a rush that was! I saw on their website where they produced 138,409 contacts to 35,702 unique call signs. The ops on K1N were a very patient bunch in light of many, many impatient operators. But for many the #2 DXCC entity is in the logs.

73 de KK3Q



From the ARRL

ARRL Seeks Member Input on Draft HF Band Plan Proposals

The ARRL is asking members to comment by April 19 on possible changes to the League's HF Band Plans suggested by the HF Band Planning Committee. The survey is part of the committee's efforts to tweak the band plans for the RTTY/data/CW portions of 80 through 10 meters — excepting 60 meters. For more information see: <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-member-input-on-draft-hf-band-plan-proposals>

Nominations Sought for 2015 Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award

Amateur Radio Newsline is seeking nominations for its 2015 Young Ham of the Year (YOTY) Award. To be considered, a nominee must have used Amateur Radio in some way that has benefited his or her community or encouraged technological development directly or indirectly related to communications.

The deadline to submit an application is May 30, 2015. An application form also is available by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to 2015 Young Ham of the Year Award, c/o Amateur Radio Newsline, 28197 Robin Ave, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Basic information on required documentation and how to file are included on the nominating form. For more information see: <http://www.arrl.org/news/nominations-sought-for-2015-amateur-radio-newsline-young-ham-of-the-year-award>

Guess the Antenna Location

See if you can find the owner of this superb set up in the back yard of a North Florida member.

No prizes offered, just a chance to see what antennas our members are



ON THE AIR:

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

W1BSA from the USS Massachusetts

Mar 7, 1700Z-2100Z, W1BSA , Fall River, MA. Massasoit Amateur Radio Association. 14.259 7.259. Certificate & QSL. Rick Emord, KB1TEE, 135 Wareham St, Middleboro, MA 02346. We are doing a presentation of amateur radio for the public from the Ward Room on board the ship. Scouts will be staying on the ship overnight and are hoping to get them interested in radio communications.

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!



NFL CLUB NEWS:

Hog County Amateur Radio Association

(Sumter County)

The Hog County Amateur Radio Association's Fox Hunt was held on 7 FEB 2015 at

the Lake Okahumpka Park. The brave trio of **Gail King, KJ4GEK** - **Bob Hand, W8WQS** - **Bob Hadden, KK4IAF** were on hand to hunt down the "Fox" hidden in the woods. A good time was had by all and in the process other citizens using the park being curious of course had to ask what we were doing. This of course allowed us to share not only about the "Fox Hunt" but also about Amateur Radio. So stay tuned for our next Fox Hunt and please feel free to attend and try to find the Fox. (Submitted by **Gene King, KI4LEH**).



Florida Section Manger Meeting (ARES and ARRL Leadership)



On Friday, February 13, 2015 (yep, that would be Friday the 13th!), all three Florida Section Managers had a “staff meeting” at the Orlando Hamcation. This is the second such meeting, the first occurred at the Melbourne Hamfest this past October 2014. NFL SM Steve Szabo WB4OMM, SFL SM Jeff Beals WA4AW, and WCF SM Darrell Davis KT4WX met with Florida Division of Emergency Management Communications Branch Director Phil Royce KE4PWE and ESF 2 Bob Little KK4OAI in what has been recognized as a “first ever” meeting of all three Florida Sections and State Communications Officials. The meeting was setup by Bennie E. Henley KI4IGX, WCF Section Emergency Coordinator; also in attendance was Lawrence W. Zimmer W4LWZ, Southern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator; and former WCF SM Dee Turner N4GD and several others present involved in the ARES and ARRL Leadership around the state.

The focus of the meeting was to coordinate EmComm and general section administration throughout the state to enhance the ability of hams to help in the event of disasters or other times of need. All recognized that a large scale event (hurricane, tornado, flood, etc.) could impact more than one section at a time, and we all needed to be able to communicate and coordinate our various efforts.

The initial effort will be to draft a statewide communications “base plan” with each Section having an appendix for issues and concerns specific to just that Section. This plan will then be coordinated with the Florida State Comm Plan, and ultimately with the Georgia, Alabama, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Sections that comprise the Southeastern Division of the ARRL.

To quote Mr. Royce: *“I just want to thank all of you for participating in our probably “first ever” Officials and Amateur Radio Symposium ... we did get a lot accomplished. ...I think we have a lot of work to do but if we are vigilant and keep staying on the same page we will get things accomplished. I think the most important part of this is consistency between all of us of the mission and the message to the masses.”*

More on this initiative as we move forward. Watch this newsletter and your e-mails for additional progress in the near future!

Section Manager Visits in January and February

ARRL Northern Florida Section Manager Steve Szabo WB4OMM had the honor of visiting the following clubs, groups, organizations and/or events in January and February of 2015:

January 17 – Volusia/Flagler ARES, Daytona Beach
January 18 – QCWA Chapter 45 Quarterly Meeting, Casselberry
February 13 – Florida Contest Group Annual Meeting, Orlando
February 13-15 – Orlando Hamcation, Orlando
February 19 – Spring Hill Amateur Radio Club, Spring Hill
February 27 – NAQCC-FL Chapter Parkpedition, New Smyrna Beach

Tentative Site Visits for March 2015:

March 10 – Daytona Beach CERT Amateur Radio Club, Daytona Beach
March 20-22 – Playground ARC Hamfest, Ft. Walton Beach
March 28 – Central Florida QRP Group Breakfast Meeting, Sanford

Submitting your club events and pictures can be done by sending them via email to hamradio@kk3q.net. Please try to send as large an image or images as you can.

Low resolution images don't display or print all that well.

Northern Florida Section Web Page:

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

