

Good Morning!

Our Newsletter and Web Page both look FB!

Humongous thanks to Floyd KK3Q and Bert N8NN for their efforts – and thanks to those folks who took the time to send news and articles this month.

Please join me in welcoming Neil Light KK4VHX as the new ADEC for the West Panhandle District. Good luck Neil and thanks for stepping up to the plate!

Five very important statements for this month!!

1. PLEASE SEND YOU MONTHLY REPORTS TO SEC BOB MITCHELL W4HKG NO LATER THAN THE 5th OF THE MONTH. Without hitting this too hard, there have been very few monthly reports filed since I became SM. To those of you who dutifully submit, THANK YOU! To those of you who have been remiss.....please get back on track. Simply forward “no change, no activity” to Bob if necessary, but you are obligated to send in a monthly report. This is part of your job when you took the position.

2. THE STATE HAS REQUESTED A SURVEY OF AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT AND CAPABILITES IN EACH NFL SECTION COUNTY AND/OR CITY EOCs. ASEC Strait Hollis KT4YT will be coordinating this survey. Please make sure you read the minutes of the last Florida Section Manager’s Meeting with the State EOC on page 9 and 10 of the Newsletter. **DO NOT SEND ANYONE ANYTHING YET!!** Strait will be contacting each County EC and/or DEC for the survey information.

3. THE STATEWIDE FLORIDA HURRICANE EXERCISE IS NEXT MONTH – MAY 2015. Yes, the NFL Section will be participating. I will be sending out an Exercise Plan (ExPlan) with specific participation requests. In summary, I will be asking each County group to: Activate their local group; deploy members to served agency locations in the field; and communicate specific information back to a central location. I will be asking you to use HF, VHF/UHF, Pactor, D-STAR, D-RATS, and EchoLink modes (you do not have to use them all). You will also be required to use an ICS compliant message form (that will be provided). Expect the ExPlan to be distributed before the 20th of April.

4. THE ARRL 2015 FIELD DAY JUNE 27-28 IS QUICKLY APPROACHING!! It is a good time to start the planning for your local groups and clubs. The 2015 Field Day Package (Complete) is attached. I have requested a Statewide Proclamation from Governor Scott’s office and will distribute a copy to all when it is received – you may want to do the same of your local city or county. Make sure you list your group in the online locator: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

5. THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DO! I continue to be impressed with our folks in the Section. Keep up the efforts and have fun!

This month will be a busy “admin” month as I get our ARRL Leadership database up to date, and plan for our participation in the Florida State Hurricane Exercise in May, plus my local groups Field Day here in Daytona. Not much visiting going on this month - and I have some work and personal obligations to take care of.

Stay safe, get on the air, and have fun!!

EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Steve WB4OMM