

Section Manager's Message  
February 2017

Greetings North Florida Hams!

Hamcation is almost here!

Our Section's biggest event - the Orlando Hamcation on February 10, 11 & 12 – is just about here! As usual, I will host a Section Forum in HIPPS 3 at the Lakeside Pavilion (usual place) starting at 11:15 am, for about an hour; Division Director Greg Sarratt and Assistant Director Joey Tiritilli will also be there. Stop by and say "Hello"!! I'll also be at the ARRL booth, helping with Card Checking and welcoming folks to Hamcation; I will be there all three days. While a bit "brisk" as of this writing (it's 46 degrees!) here's to hoping for Chamber of Commerce weather for the entire event! For more information - <http://www.hamcation.com/> Come on out the largest Hamfest in the Southeast! This is ALWAYS a great event! Meet old friends, make new friends, and mingle! Orlando Amateur Radio Club puts on a class act!

For those of you that contest, I have been fortunate to sneak in a few hours here and there for some of the recent 'tests. I was duly impressed this past Saturday night during the CQ World Wide 160M CW Contest – the band was quiet and lots of signals! I worked several new states/DXCC entities into the log. I snuck in a few minutes in the NAQP CW Contest, and NAQCC sprints. Conditions have not been so good (like where ARE those sunspots?) but every now and then, the deserving get a glimpse of what propagation is!

The EmComm front has been largely quiet since our visit from Hurricane Matthew back in October. This past weekend saw some anticipated concerns, but not of real consequence. Let's hope it stays that way.

Anyone going to Dayton this year? I am planning on it, absolutely HAVE to see the new site. More on this trip in a few months.

Hope to see you at Hamcation! No plans for any meetings or Hamfest travel in February or March. Hoping to schedule some visits starting in April. As always, I am just an e-mail or phone call away!

Get involved, get active, get happy! Stay safe, get on the air, and have fun!!

**EVERYONE COUNTS!**

**73, Steve WB4OMM**



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**ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio™**

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