

Section Manager's Message
October 2017

Greetings North Florida Hams! **Welcome to the GREATEST HOBBY IN THE WORLD!**

Hi Folks,

The obvious topics of interest are Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Please keep those folks Puerto Rico in your thoughts and prayers. That could have been us. Stay aware and prepared. Have a plan!!!

As I have time to "recover", I will go through the hundreds of messages, e-mails, reports, and try to come up with a composite of Hurricane Irma with necessary changes in our plans if necessary. I will get this out to all as soon as I can.

I will be meeting with the WCF and SFL Section Managers and ARRL HQ Staff at the Melbourne Hamfest in two weeks (October 13 and 14). Hope you can attend this great event and support our folks in SFL!

Lotsa' contests in the immediate future....and while propagation is not great, the contests are! Look here for a schedule of contests and activities: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>.

Also the Simulated Emergency Test is next week, Saturday and Sunday, October 7 and 8, more info is here: <http://www.arrl.org/news/get-with-the-set-arrl-simulated-emergency-test-set-fall-classic-just-ahead>. My guidance for the SET? LOCAL!!!! Work with your local partners, shore up, strengthen, or initiate relationships with our served agencies. **RESTOCK, REPLENISH, REVIEW!** With Irma gone, you may have used items that are stored for use – and now is a good time to replace those items used, and maintain your equipment! Yes, now is great time to get that generator serviced, buy water and fresh batteries, make arrangements for you and your family should another storm/event appear. Don't wait until there is a CAT 5 hurricane in the Atlantic Basin to go do that stuff!

Check out our fabulous NFL Section Web Page and read our spectacular Newsletter (October issue) *QST NFL*. <http://arrl-nfl.org/>.

I don't have any planned visits for this month, but then again, who knows, I may just show up somewhere!

Keep vigilant on the weather and Happy Halloween!

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

EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Steve WB4OMM

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