

## Section Manager's Message

October 2018

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

Well, looks like we were lucky this time and missed getting hit with Hurricane Florence. The emails were flying around, but for the most part, as far as the North Florida Section is concerned, everything was good.

As for making my rounds, I attended the September Orlando Amateur Radio Club meeting. A great group of people, and they had a very good presentation on Digital Radio Hotspots. It was good to the point where I was taking notes for further research! I had a meeting scheduled with the Sumter County RACES group, but my employer surprised me with an impromptu service call. I want to thank **Gene King KI4LEH** for the invitation and will reschedule to make it out there.

Also, I attended my home club's meeting, DB-CERT ART (Daytona Beach CERT Amateur Radio Team), and caught up with my fellow hams. Here is where I noticed something different. We do a few events during the year: the Daytona Half Marathon, the Daytona 500 Special Event Station, Florida QSO party, Field Day, and a few others. I was looking at all the events on our handout and had to stop and think, "Hey, I'm the Section Manager now. I have to see if I can attend these events and still make meetings around the state." I'm really starting grasp what is entailed in being the SM; there is a lot of work involved!

As always, I would like everyone to keep in mind the upcoming hamfests:

- Melbourne Hamfest – October 12-13, 2018 - <http://www.pcars.org/hamfest/2018/index.htm>  
This is a Friday/Saturday event! I will be attending this on Saturday!
- Jacksonville Free Hamfest - October 27, 2018 - <http://nofars.net/home/hamfest>  
Admission is free! Tailgating is free! From 7:00 AM until Noon. I am going to try to attend this one!
- Orlando HamCation 2019 – February 8-10, 2019 – <https://www.hamcation.com/>  
This is the big one for us in Florida, and is also the Southern Division Convention! I will be attending Saturday and Sunday, but I am pushing for all three days!

Well, that's all I have for this report. I want to bid everyone a good day, and close by saying, "Get involved, get active, get happy! Stay safe, get on the air (no matter the mode), and have fun!" Amateur radio is the greatest hobby, and I am proud to be a ham!

**EVERYONE COUNTS!**

**73, Kevin KK4BFN**

**NFL Section Manager**

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386-547-2838

[kk4bfm@arrl.org](mailto:kk4bfm@arrl.org)