QST NFL

Sharing information of interest to Radio Amateurs in North Florida

Volume 7 Issue 8 | **www.arrl-nfl.org** | **August 2020**

Citizen Corps Grants Applicable to Amateur Radio Serving Local Emergency Management

by Gordon Gibby KX4Z

Turns out there have been grants for multiple years released in Florida that can help local ARES® and similar communications groups obtain funding for communications gear. Volunteer Florida (Florida Commission on Community Service, https://www.volunteerflorida.org/) was organized in 1994, administers millions of dollars annually in federal and state grant monies, guided by a bipartisan board of Commissioners, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate. Grants appear to have been offered for "Citizen Corps" groups for several years. Citizen Corps is a program of the Department of Homeland Security (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizen_Corps) with local Councils, stressing ICS-based volunteers, and works to coordinate, streamline and improve local volunteer efforts. This year there are multiple $5-10,000 awards available through this program. (particularly FY 2020-2021 CERT/Citizen Corps Notice Of Funding Opportunity https://www.volunteerflorida.org/grants/) When I first somewhat understood the grants available, I attempted to publicize the possibilities by way of the Florida EC/AEC groups.io, and also through the Florida ECOMM Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/176226096326132).

The key is to work with your local Emergency Management department, as an ARES® group is not an eligible applicant for these grants (I think) despite the ARRL being an affiliated organization. The EM dept or your Sheriff appears to be an eligible group. (The nomenclature here is somewhat confusing in the various documents.) Speaking with Cindy Rojas, of Volunteer Florida, I learned they are very open to submissions from Emergency Management departments. Ms. Rojas is very open to phone calls and was extremely helpful to my ignorant questions. The specific grant of interest to me included EQUIPMENT as a suitable item – and we have ongoing needs for replacement storage batteries, chargers, and additional standardized go-boxes for volunteer communicators at shelters/etc in Alachua County. At the time of this writing, we have a draft application and are sorting through the issues of who/how to file this before the deadline Wednesday July 28 through their web-based "Blackbaud" system. (https://www.volunteerflorida.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/FY-2020-2021-VF-Citizen-Corps-CERT-Program-RFP-FINAL1.pdf) It isn't difficult at all, just tedious as they have a lot of insightful questions that need to be answered, as well as creating budget and timeline. (There are example documents for both of those; you just edit to fit your group.)

The important thing that local ham radio clubs bring to the table for such a grant is VOLUNTEER TIME. This is considered a "match" item valued at over $24/hour. Our local group has been keeping track of time we spend volunteering at our local EOC keeping gear functional and practicing state and federal (SHARES) nets; we also have extensive documented training in our monthly meetings, soldering-sessions, exercises, etc. My calculations suggested we would have over $16,000 of potential "match" as a result of the items we are likely to complete within the grant period of July 1 2020 – June 30 2021.

While this newsletter article likely reaches you past the 2020-2021 deadline for application, ***this is a recurrent grant*** and your group might wish to become better acquainted in order to gain funding for items such as updated communications gear, PACTOR modems, more suitable antennas, shelter communications gear, etc., next year.

If anyone has questions, feel free to contact me and I'll give you as much information as I can from what we have learned from our effort to try and apply this year.

What's Inside….

Email your QST NFL input to **n4gl.marty@gmail.com**
Marty Brown, N4GL, Editor

Duval County ARES Assists Scout Troop 837

Grant Greenwell, K4GDG

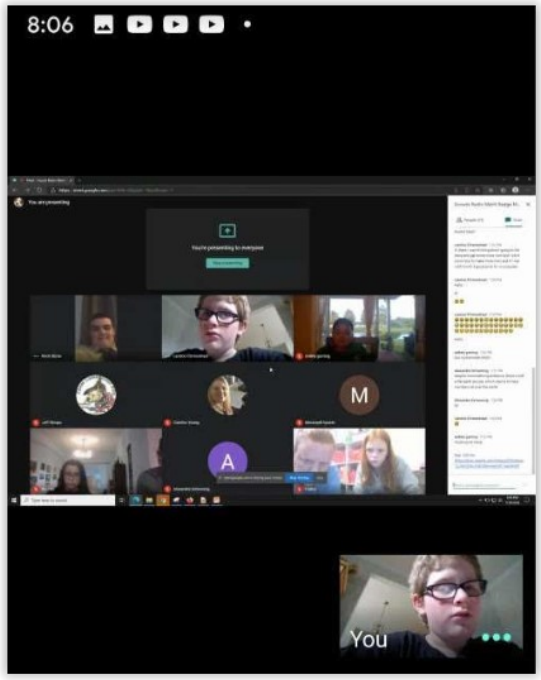
On the evening of July 30th, Duval County ARES member Wayne Hew, AK4G, spearheaded efforts to assist local Scout Troop 837 of Hogan Baptist Church in attaining their Radio merit badge.

Troop 837 and Duval ARES had attempted the instruction in conjunction with Field Day 2020, which was cancelled due to ballooning COVID cases in the Jacksonville area. With the cancellation of Summer Camps across the region, the opportunity to attain merit badges subsequently decreased. Recognizing that merit badges are a vital path to promotion in Scouting, as well as a medium for Scouts to explore fields of their personal interest, Duval ARES remained committed to providing the instruction.

In an effort to maintain COVID mitigation measures, AK4G proposed and subsequently executed virtual merit badge instruction through Google Hangouts and Zoom. Merit badge pamphlets were purchased by Duval ARES and provided to the Troop prior to the instruction, as well as handouts and ham radio quick guides. At 1900 local, AK4G kicked off the video session instruction to 12 Scouts. Over an hour's session, he hit on such topics as basic radio theory and construction, propagation, and also elaborated on the role of ARES in emergency scenarios - timely given the approach of Tropical Storm Isaias.

The instruction was well-received and will be repeated weekly until the entire merit badge course of instruction is covered. Once complete AK4G, other Duval ARES members, and registered merit badge counselors will sign off on the Scouts' merit badge.

AK4G and Duval ARES will continue to provide support to Troop 837 not only through instruction, but also through assisting building the Troop's radio shack. To date, HF radios, tuners, VHF radios and HTs, and antenna building kits have been donated to the Troop for erecting a proper shack. Duval ARES looks forward to the Scouts testing and licensing with the local Laurel VEC and getting on the air soon!



For Your Reading Pleasure - COVID-19 Humor

Contributed by: Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K

- Can we uninstall 2020 and reinstall it again?... I think it has a virus ...
- Just asked a 6 year old if he understands why there is no school. He said yes because they are out of toilet paper.

Questions about the PIO

Scott Roberts, KK4ECR
kk4ecr@gmail.com
NFL Section PIC

The job of the PIO is an important job in every ARES organization. Over the last several months a few questions have been asked to me that are worth answering here.

Should the EC be the PIO?
While the EC may be the person who speaks to the media the most often, the EC has plenty of other things to be concerned with during an activation. The EC should not have to be concerned with making sure the media is speaking to the right person to get the right questions answered. The EC should be concerned with deployment of ARES assets. With that in mind, it is beneficial to have a PIO who can handle facilitating the answering of the questions that the media may have

I do not have any PIO experience; can I still be the PIO?
When I became the PIO for our local ARES organization, I did not have any PIO experience per se. But, I did learn quickly where to get the experience and from whom I could learn. One of the best ways to gain experience as a PIO is to meet and nurture relationships with the PIO of your served agencies. Watch what they do and how they interact with the media and the public. Watch with whom they interact and when they interact with them. You can gain MUCH experience by watching other PIOs in action

Is the job of the PIO to interact with ONLY the media?
This, by far, has been the question that has been asked to me more than any other. The short answer is, "NO! The job of the PIO is not just to interact with the media." The job of the PIO is far more than just talking to the media. In many of my previous articles, I have written about the job of the PIO. The job of the PIO is, yes, to interact with and pass information to the media – but it is much more. The job of the PIO is to build relationships with the media, the public, and your served agencies. The job of the PIO is to make face to face contacts with the media, the public and your service agencies. The job of the PIO is to build up your ARES organizations and stir up interest in the community.

In the Northern Florida Section, we are always looking for people who are interested in being the PIO for their county. A PIO is one who has a great personality and loves to work with people. They don't have to be the most outgoing person, but they need to be willing to talk to people. If you have any interest, or know someone who does, please let me know or let your EC know.

Saying thanks to Ray, K1HG

Arc J. Thames, ARES EC, Santa Rosa County, FL

Santa Rosa County's ARES Emergency Coordinator, Ray Crepeau-K1HG, decided to retire from his position in June. Ray had served Santa Rosa County for 5 years and wanted to take some time to enjoy his retirement as he just celebrated his 78th birthday.

Ray established a wonderful working relationship with the Emergency Management team in Santa Rosa County and was well liked by the entire team. Ray and his wife, Daisy, have also deployed to other areas such as New Orleans during times of disaster.

When Ray decided to retire, he asked Arc Thames, W4CPD, if he'd be willing to take on the role. Arc had started working with the Santa Rosa County ARES team 4 years ago, shortly after he obtained his amateur radio license. Arc began managing the county's DSTAR repeater system and has become the area's "go to" DSTAR resource. With Ray's big shoes to fill, Arc accepted Ray's nomination and is now the new Emergency Coordinator for Santa Rosa County.

Due to COVID-19, the Santa Rosa ARES team had not been able to have a meeting so far this year but were finally able to meet on July 11. At the meeting Arc, along with the Assistant Emergency Coordinators, presented Ray with a plaque of appreciation as well as a gift certificate to Ham Radio Outlet.

Pictured from left to right: Jack-W4JPH, Jon-KM4QQO, Steve-W4SJV, Daisy-KT4KW, Ray-K1HG, Arc-W4CPD

Pictured: Arc-W4CPD, EC Santa Rosa County

Nassau County Field Day

Bud Sinor, KA3OGG, EC Nassau County ARES

Here are pictures of the Nassau Co Field Day site using the ARES trailer, and the Two Sheriff's communications vans from which we operated 4 HF transmitters. Several of the HF temporary antennas are also visible. We had 13 members participate in Field Day on site.

Nassau Co. ARES Responds to NCSO Request to Set Up a Volunteer Reception Center

Bud Sinor, KA3OGG, EC Nassau County ARES

On July 16th, the Nassau Co Emergency Manager requested the ARES group prepare to set up a volunteer reception center for a Nassau County Sheriff's Office search for a missing senior with Alzheimer's in Yulee. NC ARES activated and 8 Volunteers, most of which had been involved in setting up similar reception centers in Baker and Clay county, were put on one-hour standby.

For those who have not been involved in such an operation, the volunteer reception center function is to bring in local citizen and other law enforcement volunteering for a search. Forms are filled out and police background checks are conducted (by local officers). A safety briefing for volunteers is given and a search area and group leader are assigned. The volunteers are then sent to the assigned areas. Nassau Co ARES also staffs the mobile command center to operate radios, issue equipment, and generally supplement forces.

In this case, we manned the local County Watch Office and Mobile Communications Center and handed out equipment. Unfortunately, the senior was found deceased the evening of the 16th.

COMING OCTOBER 9th and 10th, 2020

The 55th Annual Melbourne Hamfest

and Official 2020 ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention

Melbourne Auditorium

625 E. Hibiscus Blvd
Melbourne, Florida

Friday - October 9th - 1pm to 7pm

Saturday - October 10th - 9am to 3pm

Jacksonville Amateur Radio News

N4UF, Billy Williams

The North Florida Amateur Radio Society (NOFARS) does not meet in August. The next meeting is Thursday, September 10th at Hogan Baptist Church.

At the July 9th NOFARS meeting, CBS 47 & Fox 30 Chief Meteorologist Mike Buresh gave another very good presentation. Several factors point to an active hurricane season. Through efforts of Rajesh K4SK and Brandi K4PL, the meeting was streamed. Comments indicate that the streaming option was well-received by several who could not attend.

The Jacksonville FREE Hamfest is scheduled for Saturday, October 24th in the big parking area at Terry Parker Baptist Church. To minimize chances of virus exposure, several changes in the format and layout will be made.

Virus outbreaks statewide during late June caused the Duval ARES Field Day effort at Hogan Baptist Church to be cancelled. Organizer Grant Greenwell, K4GDG planned additional measures for mitigation but the probability of contracting a virus increases when many people gather, even if restrictions and mitigation are in place. Several other large FD efforts in northeastern Florida were also missing.

Some operated from their homes or used small portable set-ups. N4UF's 1B operation made 420 CW contacts using dipoles hung from tree limbs. Propagation went downhill during overnight hours and didn't improve Sunday.

NOFARS HAMFEST NEWS

The Fun Starts At Sunrise

2020 JACKSONVILLE FREE HAMFEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

TERRY PARKER BAPTIST CHURCH PARKING LOT

7024 MERRILL RD

7AM-NOON

FREE ADMISSION

FREE TAILGATING: 60+ Sellers in 2019

FREE FCC TESTING BY JAXLAUREL VEs

SELL YOUR ELECTRONIC ITEMS

HUNT FOR YOUR NEXT BARGAIN

W4SNN HOSPITALITY

MEET YOUR FRIENDS & MAKE NEW ONES

.-.

Field Day After Action / Improvement Plan Writing Benefits Your Group

by Gordon Gibby KX4Z

Here's a plea for leadership of various emergency comms groups to take the time to put in writing your recollections of what went well/*or not* in your group's 2020 ARRL Field Day effort. The insightful ideas and suggestions you pen now will otherwise be forgotten, but could form the basis for continued training or building during the coming year and significantly improve your group's preparedness! I did this last year for my individual back-yard-trailer effort, and found the notes hugely beneficial to our entire group's 2F generator/batteries/solar incredible effort this year.

It doesn't have to be in a fancy format! Just get it down on paper, or in a file you'll find next year. Who was strong at what? Where were the supplies stored? Problems with a certain rig, or RF feedback into a computer? Generator that worked or died? What do you wish you had done differently? FANS turned out to be huge for our group this year and LIGHTS were also in short supply after nightfall. Good time to write down which MEDIA responded and send thank-you's if you haven't already!

Little insights there, and tips that people offered for improving things next year can be great for your club!

QCWA Chapter 62

Ken Simpson, W8EK, President

As with most chapters, QCWA Chapter 62, based in the Ocala area, has not held a meeting for a while. We are hoping that we will be able to hold our August 27 meeting at 12:30 PM as usual at the China Lee restaurant. Watch for announcements from Ken, W8EK, W8EK@flham.net, closer to our August 27 meeting date. We hope to see you then!

Chapter 62 also holds a net every Saturday morning at 9 AM local time on 3940 KHz. All are welcome and encouraged to check in.

A bit of humor from Tom Lufkin, W4DAX

My son kept chewing on electrical cords, so I had to ground him. He is currently doing better and conducting himself properly!

Tom is a member of the Silver Springs Amateur Radio club.

Building a Serious State-of-the-Art HF Transceiver

by Bert Garcia N8NN

After 60+ years of ham radio and living by the slogan *Life's Too Short for QRP*, here I am at the bottom of a sunspot cycle thinking about QRP! Why…? Because QRP involves kit building. No longer can you build an EF Johnson, a Knight Kit, an Eico or a Heathkit radio. Those days are gone. Oh yes, you can put together a no-solder Elecraft radio with nothing more than a screwdriver, but is that really kit building? Without the smell of rosin, I think not.

After searching the Internet for a good QRP kit, I chose the mcHF radio by Chris Atanassov, MØNKA in the United Kingdom. Chris has designed a truly serious 5 watt QRP transceiver that operates on 80-10 meters, SSB/CW/AM/FM/RTTY/PSK and digital voice, two VFOs with split operation, DSP filtering from 300 Hz to 10 kHz, passband tuning, DSP noise reduction, DSP automatic notch filter, noise blanker, touch screen with spectrum and waterfall displays, built-in speaker, automatic antenna tuner, on-screen CW/RTTY/PSK decoding, built-in RTTY/PSK transmit from paddle, USB keyboard or stored messages for RTTY/PSK/CW, built-in CW memory keyer, USB interface for computer control and software updates, plus general coverage receive 2-30 MHz. You probably think I'm describing an Icom IC□7610 -- I'm not. You get all this in a 7.5 x 3 x 1.5 inch package that weighs less than 2 pounds.

Figure 1: mcHF QRP transceiver.

Figure 1 shows the completed radio I built. You can purchase the bare circuit boards and go on a scavenger hunt for the parts, or you can purchase the boards with the surface-mounted parts installed and a bag with most of the other parts as I did. You need to wind the tiny toroids and transformers, solder the larger parts, purchase the final transistors, a speaker, and a suitable case elsewhere. A microphone and CW key are not included in the kit.

The radio is built on two circuit boards -- a Display/Control/DSP board and an RF board. The add-on automatic antenna tuner, not sold by MØNKA, is on a third board. Figure 2 shows the current version 0.6.3 kit from MØNKA, though my version 0.6.0 kit did not have the large components mounted. Figure 3 shows my completed Display/Control/DSP board front and rear. Figure 4 is my a partially completed RF board with a Lincoln penny on it for a size comparison. The large hole in the RF board allows clearance for the speaker.

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Figure 2: mcHF kit, photo by Chris MØNKA.

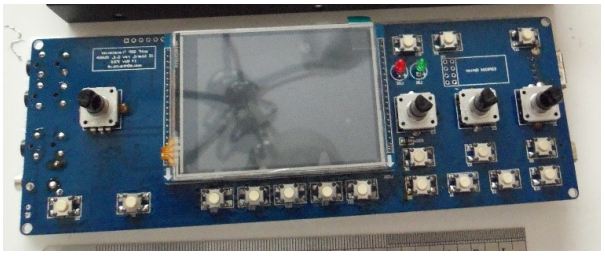

Figure 3: My mcHF Display/Control board, front (top) and rear (bottom).

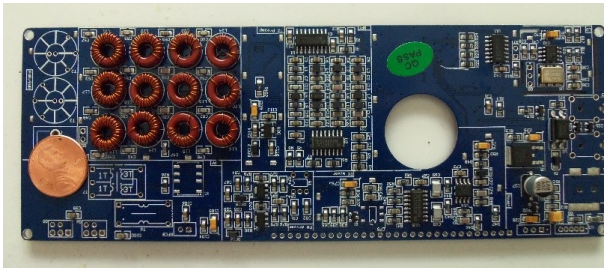

Figure 4: My partially assembled RF board.

Chris's design is a direct conversion receiver and transmitter with a microcontroller to provide front panel display/control and DSP functions. He kept the analog components to a minimum and shifted as much functionality to the microcontroller as possible. This kit requires advanced soldering skills as wells as tuning and alignment, and software programming.

The microcontroller is not pre-programmed, so you need to obtain software and a boot loader program to install it. Some software experience is a big help. The software is open source and constantly being improved, and today the software is mature and stable. The software tools to install the mcHF program are available for free on the Internet. A GitHub project includes in-depth documentation and the software you need to load into the mcHF.

Does it work? You bet it does…! Watch this video of my 5 watt mcHF in action working DX in the CQWW contest https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=quOqvoFQvcE. The receiver performs as well as a commercial transceiver costing five times the price of the kit. It's only a 5 watt QRP transceiver, so you need to work hard to make contacts. To make QSOs a little easier, I added a 50 watt amplifier from HobbyPCB -- but that's a story for another day.

References:

(1) mcHF QRP Transceiver http://www.m0nka.co.uk/?page_id=740 $293 plus shipping
(2) Automatic antenna tuner kit https://www.mchf.at/ $108 shipped
(3) GitHub software project https://github.com/df8oe/UHSDR, free
(4) CQWW 2017 video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=quOqvoFQvcE
(5) Chuck Horvath WD8BXS, https://www.qrz.com/lookup USA guru

QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

Participate in this ground breaking, virtual international amateur radio expo. Packed with world renowned speakers, exhibitors, and special conference rooms built on a virtual reality platform. Attend from the convenience of your desktop, laptop, tablet, or smartphone.

Improve Your EOC's Antennas!

By Gordon Gibby KX4Z

I'd like to encourage volunteer communicators to take the time to **analyze the backup-communications antennas at their EOC's and wisely plan to improve them if needed.** Both VHF/UHF and HF antennas can be part of the review. Reducing received noise, detecting connections problems, improving transmission efficiency—all worthy objectives.

Many groups have reported that there are intractable problems with backup antennas at government facilities, and the stories are indeed often quite sad. Low-height antennas near to pulse-width modulated (PWM) air conditioning systems, or switching power supplies; limited bandwidth antennas that will be difficult to utilize for federal SHARES systems, VHF/UHF verticals that are too low or corroded….all too common.

Our local story offers some hope & ideas:

Alachua County EOC had a decades-long history of poor backup antennas. (1) VHF/UHF antennas at 8 feet altitude, *totally dependent on repeaters*. (2) HF vertical antenna type with lossy transformers, low-angle radiation (poor for intra-state work), shielded by a building, high noise level and *no history of any successful distant 80 meter connection*. All located right beside an 80-foot tower.

Long story short, as we demonstrated real value in multiple training efforts and exercises….the County & EM group put huge effort and $$$ into improving our antennas: Three new VHF/UHF commercial antennas at 60 ft on the tower. New HF consensus-design horizontal antenna placed above building at great cost.

But the HF situation, discouragingly, *really wasn't that much better*. Still lots of noise on lower bands. How to prove? (1) Single test receiver shuttled rapidly between residential full size antenna and EOC antenna showed solid **4-6 S-unit worse noise**. (2) Spectrum analyzer purchased, demonstrated noise on 80 meters at EOC a full 30 dB worse than comparison residential successful antenna – see Figure 1. A distant transmitter had to be 1,000 times stronger to reach our EOC, than an outlying operator. Not good. [Your Sheriff's dept is likely to have a spectrum analyzer, or one of your members, or limited <1GHz systems are inexpensive. On a full size 80 meter antenna, your noise should be LESS than -90 dB and you should CLEARLY hear signals from early morning nets]

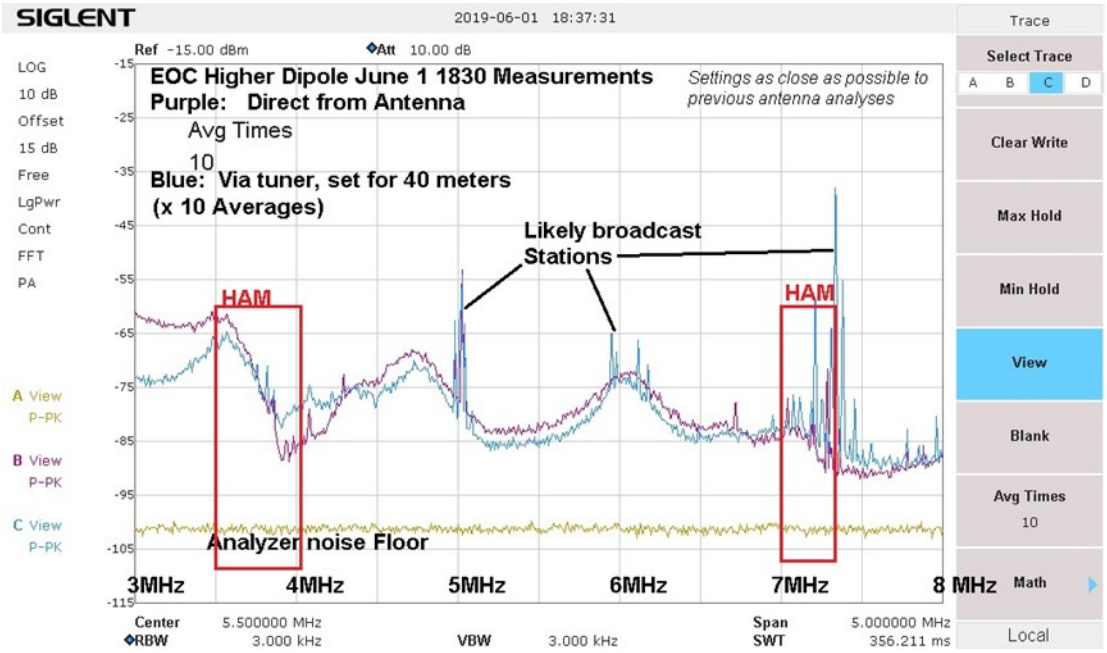

Figure 1: Spectrum analyzer measurements showing 80/75 meter noise floor of EOC antenna as high as -65 dBm (30 dB above where it should be). 40 meter noise is 10+ dB over what it should be.

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Viewing this objective information, we were asked what would we like to do to improve situation – so much $$$ already having been spent? Limiting constraints were falling away!

TESTING: We proceeded with a homemade 1-meter simple probing antenna on spectrum analyzer and **demonstrated enormous HF noise everywhere in the EOC building – even on their prodigious strapped lightning grounds, and on their roof**, compared to measurements in residential home. Probably from the massive switching supplies/backups for the county computer systems, and also AC systems. Luckily the noise was "near field" in nature, and moving just 40 yards into the parking lot resulted in far less noise. Near-field noise dissipates at the 4th power of distance, whereas far field only by the 2nd power.

OAK TREE TEST: Inverted Vee hoisted temporarily on the edge of EOC property hanging from an oak tree limb showed *very low noise similar to residential antenna* – we had a solution! See Figure 2.

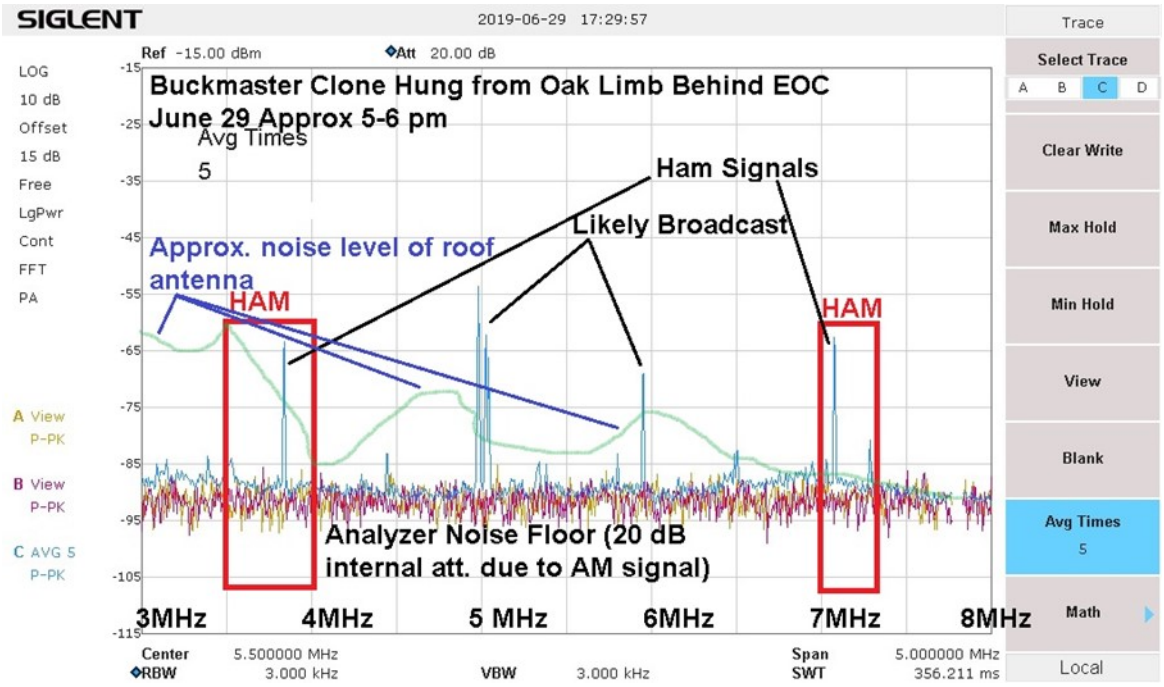

Figure 2. With the approximate noise background level of the previous noisy antenna shown in a **wavy light blue line**, the noise level of a test antenna at the edge of the property was shown to be at or below -87 dBm. A nearby powerful AM radio station would overload the wideband spectrum analyzer and made it impossible to measure any lower due to A/D overload. ***Improvement on 80 meters was 10-30 db! Ham signals were clearly visible as well as short-wave broadcasters.***

Everyone then worked together to install a very cheap, homemade 270-foot 160meter off center fed antenna on adjacent county property – and we had a REAL working HF antenna for the first time. (And also a bad case of chiggers for the crew….) This antenna was very competitive in the recent Field Day and routinely completes 80/40/30/20 meter voice/digital contacts – and also works on SHARES federal frequencies because of the design. For example, it can directly connect to SHARES assets at the State EOC.

Conclusion: With a strong volunteer group, first and foremost paying attention to the actual expressed desires of your EOC, move to make objective evaluation of your antennas. Line-of-sight antennas high enough to work even without repeaters? HF antennas suitable for intra-state work? Low noise levels within 3-4 dB of home units? Would a different antenna location be better? How can you prove it objectively and find solutions that are acceptable to all? Will your antenna work on SHARES? Consider constructing an objective testing matrix and completing a solid analysis.

VW's at Rural Radio Preparedness Association (RRPA) Field Day

VW's at RRPA Field Day

The Rural Radio Preparedness Association, a newly ARRL affiliated club, decided to take this year's ARRL Field Day logo quite literally and invited a local Volkswagen car club to setup at their field day site. Close to 10 Volkswagens showed up ranging from bugs to the iconic VW bus.

This was the RRPA's first field day event and was held at the newly renovated Floridatown Park in Pace, FL located in Santa Rosa County. RRPA President, Arc-W4CPD, says "We had so many visitors when we started that I personally didn't get to sit down and operate till around 6:30P local."

While the team did not get to make a lot of contacts, Arc says the number of visitors made up for it greatly. The team took an opportunity to showcase amateur radio to the community and educate existing hams on modes they had not participated in previously. One young man in his early twenties just happened to be visiting the park and was very excited to see there was an amateur radio group in the area as he had recently been learning about it by watching YouTube videos.

Local news station, WEAR ABC 3, came out to their field day as well and covered the event on the Saturday evening and Sunday morning news.

Pictured from left to right: Arc-W4CPD, Ed-K4PFL, Randy-WB9FSL, John-Km4FJM

FCC Testing Information

4 Corners Radio Club, Davenport FL

- First Saturday
- 10:00 AM
- Polk County Firehouse, 50945 US 27
- Walk-ins welcome
- Info: WA2FRW@aol.com

Hog County Amateur Radio Association, Bushnell FL

- First Saturday, 11:00 AM
- Cross Connection Church, 1451 West County Road 476, Bushnell, FL 33513
- Info: sumterVE@gmail.com

Lake ARA, Leesburg FL

- Monthly on the 3rd Saturday, prior to monthly meeting. (Except December)
- 8:00 AM
- LARA Clubhouse (11146 Springdale Ave, Leesburg – off of CR 473)
- For more information and registration, contact: Dave Templeton N4NG, 386-804-2806 n4ng@icloud.com in advance of the meeting.

Lake Monroe ARS FCC Testing, Sanford FL (LMARS)

Cancelled until further notice due to loss of venue because of COVID 19

- For more information and registration, contact Bob Cumming, W2BZY, 407-333-0690 or w2bzy@cfl.rr.com

Milton Amateur Radio Club, Milton FL

- Second Thursday of each even numbered month
- 6:30 PM
- Walk-in
- West Florida Hospital Rehab Institute, 8383 N Davis Hwy, Close to Johnson and N. Davis
- Info: Robert Speser, nb8s@icloud.com

Orlando ARC FCC Testing (OARC)

Cancelled until further notice due to loss of venue because of COVID 19

- Info: https://oarc.org/events-ve-testing

QCWA Chapter 45, Orlando FL

- Second Thursday
- 11:00 AM
- Golden Corral, 5535 S. Kirkman Ave, Orlando
- Walk-ins welcome
- Info: WA2FRW@aol.com

Silver Springs Radio Club, Ocala FL (SSRC)

- Go to http://k4gso.us/class/ to signup for classes
- Go to http://k4gso.us/test-signup/ for testing. Testing is held on the 2nd Tuesday of odd months at 7 PM.
- Note http://k4gso.us/ncvec605/ is requested to be filled out before you show for testing. It is best to download the form and open it as a PDF so you can fill in the blanks.

Suwannee ARC, Live Oak, FL

- First Tuesday of the month prior to the meeting
- Saturdays available with advanced notice
- N4SVC, 9707 58th Street, Live Oak, FL 32060
- www.suwanneearc.org for more information

Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society (TARS)

- First Tuesday of each even numbered month
- 7:00 PM
- American Red Cross, 1115 Easterwood Drive, Tallahassee, FL
- Contact TARS : tallyamateuradio@gmail.com with questions
- Info: http://www.k4tlh.net

West Volusia Amateur Radio Society

- Second Saturday of each odd numbered month
- 9:00 AM
- Elks Lodge, 614 S. Alabama Avenue, Deland, FL
- Info: https://westvars.org/testing

Remember: Bring photo ID, CSESs, copy of current license, exam fee in cash, $15 exact change. Large print exams are available.

Due to the COVID 19 restrictions on gatherings, please check with the organizations listed for changes or cancellations.

Directory of Traffic Nets
Provided by Gordon Gibby, KX4Z

http://radio-relay.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/

NFL Web Site

For net, hamfest and other events go to www.arrl-nfl.org. Webmaster Brian McClure, NW4R, maintains an up-to-date and detailed listing of all NFL nets and activities. If you need to make a change to an existing net or activity, or add a new one, you can contact Brian on the website.

NFL Officials

Section Manager – *Kevin Bess, KK4BFN*

Assistant Section Managers

Joseph D. Bushnel W2DWR
John C Reynolds W4IJJ
Dave Davis WA4WES
Jeff Capehart W4UFL
Neil Light KK4VHX
Ray Crepeau K1HG
Steve Szabo WB4OMM

Section Emergency Coordinator – *Karl Martin K4HBN*

Section Public Information Coordinator— *Scott Roberts KK4ECR*

Assistant SE Coordinator – *Dave Davis WA4WES*

Section Technical Coordinator – *Frank Haas KB4T*

Affiliated Club Coordinator – *Appointment Pending*

Section Traffic Manager – *Helen Straughn WC4FSU*

Official Observer Coordinator – *Robert Leasko WB8PAF*

Want a QST NFL Reminder?

Marty Brown, N4GL, Editor

Click on the email below and I'll put you on the reminder list that lets you know when the monthly input is due, and when the newsletter is posted on the website arrr-nfl.org.

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QST NFL

Newsletter of the Northern Florida Section of the ARRL

1.Spread the word about our website www.arrl-nfl.org and ***QST NFL*** on your club web-site, in a newsletter or at a meeting.
2.Send a write-up and picture of your next activity.
3.Make sure you, or the appropriate member of your club is on the email reminder list.
4.Contact: Marty Brown N4GL, n4gl.marty@gmail.com

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