

KK4ECR Assumes NFL Section Manager Duties July 1

From the [ARRL Letter for May 26, 2022](#)

“Scott Roberts, KK4ECR, the only nominee for the Northern Florida Section, will become SM on July 1. He has been serving as the Assistant Section Manager and Public Information Coordinator for the Section. He’ll succeed Kevin Bess, KK4BFN, who decided not to run for a new term. Bess, a resident of Edgewater, has been SM since 2018.”



I am Honored!

Scott Roberts, KK4ECR
Incoming NFL Section Manager

I want to start by saying how humbled and honored I am to be the incoming NFL Section Manager. I have been working over the last month or so with the current section leadership team and we prepare for the transition.

We have a GREAT Section, and one of the signs of greatness is when others try to duplicate what you do – there are many other sections across the US that try to do just that. I want to be a part of keeping that greatness going.

In my article next month, I will introduce the Section leadership team that will be working with me to serve you for the next two years. Our goal is to help you in any way we can to make sure we are prepared whatever challenges and requests are presented to us.

Over the first few months, I, along with the Section Emergency Coordinator and Assistant Section Managers, will work to lay out a plan to increase the greatness of our section and get out section working together to achieve amazing things as a TEAM! Together Everyone Achieves More.

I want to be available to answer any questions and assist with any challenges that you may have in your county, club, or organization. Here is my contact information:

Scott Roberts. KK4ECR

904-759-7812 – Cell
5481 – Hamshack Hotline
kk4ecr@gmail.com



If you would like me to speak to your club / organization, please let me know. I will do my best to be available in person or by Zoom for as many meeting requests as I can.

Again, thank you for the honor to serve you. I look forward to working with each county over the next 2 years.

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

All submissions are subject to editing prior to publication.



It's Field Day!

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



Field Day is 25 days away!

My wife is a real estate broker. In real estate, she will do an OPEN HOUSE for a client who is looking to sell their home. When preparing for an open house, she will look for ways to promote it so that people will come look and potentially buy the home. She may post flyers, put up signs, run an ad in the paper – anything to draw attention to the open house that is being showcased.

Field Day is your club's OPEN HOUSE to your community. And, as with any open house, you need to promote it – it is not too late to start now!

Here are a few things that we can do to promote your OPEN HOUSE in your community:

- Make a list of every:
 - ◊ News anchor, reporter, meteorologist, and station manager in your area.
 - ◊ Public official – Mayor, School Board Director, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Emergency Manager, Town/City Council Member, etc.
 - ◊ Pastor, Youth Pastor, Kid's Cub Director, etc.
 - ◊ *Make sure your list has first and last name, name of the organization they are with, and email address.*
- Send every one of these people a personalized email.
 - ◊ *I use Google Sheets and then install a plug-in called "Mail Merge with Attachments." This will allow you to create a template sheet and send "bulk" personalized emails.*
- Visit your local TV and Radio stations to promote Field Day to reporters (take food with you!)
- Ask local radio announcers and TV reporters to promote your Field Day event on the air.
- Find every online Community Calendar in your area and submit your event. You will be surprised at how many online community calendars you can find.
- Put up Field Day Flyers everywhere you can (with permission).
 - ◊ Local Grocery Stores
 - ◊ Barber Shops
 - ◊ Beauty Salons
 - ◊ Churches
 - ◊ Schools
- Be sure to reply to every inquiry that you receive. People will want more information.

Look for ways to promote and invite as many people as you can to your Field Day event!

Here are some useful Field Day Resources to help you promote your event:

Field Day Web Page – <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Field Day Facebook Group – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/arrlfd>

Field Day Site locator – <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

* Make sure to add your site to the locator so people can find you.

Field Day Packet - <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2022/2022%20Field%20Day%20Packet%20v2.pdf>

Field Day Public Relations Kit - <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2022/2022%20ARRL%20Field%20Day%20-%20Public%20Relations%20Kit.pdf>



QST NFL Thanks to KK4BFN

A hearty thanks to Kevin Bess, KK4BFN, who has served as NFL Section Manager since 2018. We appreciate Kevin's service for the last four years and wish him well in the future.



From the NFL Section Emergency Coordinator

ARC Thames, W4CPD

It's hard to believe that half this year is already over, and we head into everyone's favorite month of the year for the ARRL Field Day on June 25 & 26. Field Day means various things to various people, clubs, and teams. Some may treat it as a full-blown contest, others utilize it as an opportunity to showcase amateur radio to the public and practice for emergency deployments. However you and your team decide to "field day", have fun! Be sure to read in my other article what we have planned for Santa Rosa County ARES this year.



For bonus points, remember you may send a formal message to myself as your SEC or Kevin Bess KK4BFN as your Section Manager. The message must be transmitted during the Field Day period and a copy of it must be included in your submission in standard ARRL radiogram or no credit will be given. The message must leave or enter the Field Day operation via amateur radio RF. That means you can transmit it via one of our various daily nets in the NFL section over voice or you can utilize Winlink, as long as it is done over the air and not via the internet.

In April our section reported almost 1,500 hours of volunteer time to various ARES duties within our section. Thanks to the following counties and EC/AEC's for reporting their time. The information provided by our team is consolidated and then forwarded to the ARRL.

Bay-KN4PFZ Citrus-K4SOP Clay-KK4ECR Columbia-N5CBP Duval-K4BJS Escambia-KB4HAH
Flagler-KA4LEC Leon-KC4NVU Marion-N2HAY Okaloosa-W4KKJ Orange-N4JTK Santa Rosa-W4CPD
St. Johns-WE4MJ Wakulla-W4KEF Walton-W4CJB Washington-WA4MN Volusia-W4DBL

	Number	Person-Hrs
Exercises this month:	10	162.00
Training events this month:	40	569.00
Public service events this month:	1	21.00
Community service events this month:	2	33.00
Emergency events this month:	1	22.00
SKYWARN events this month:	4	39.00
Meetings this month:	22	329.00
Unclassified events this month:	37	321.00

Our local county ARES teams need you! If you're interested in learning more about ARES in your county, visit the [County Emergency Coordinator](#) list on the section website to find the contact information for your county's Emergency Coordinator. Many of our counties offer monthly or quarterly training so it's a great opportunity to learn.

Changes to the NFL ARES Net

Over the course of the next few weeks, you will start to notice a few slight changes to the NFL ARES Net that occurs Monday-Saturday, 7:30A CDT/8:30A EDT on 3950 KHz. We are going to start providing the daily tropical outlook from the National Hurricane Center and also introduce a "Question of the Week" on Wednesday's to encourage additional participation. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

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Monthly Radiogram Challenge

June's challenge is to send me, W4CPD, a Radiogram to share with me the name and location of a hospital or emergency room in your county. You may send your Radiogram via a voice net or utilize Winlink. Winlink is a software package that allows you to send messages and forms over the internet or using a compatible radio. We are in the process of developing an online training series for Winlink but you can find the step by step instructions to send a Radiogram using Winlink via [this link](#). The section website, arri-nfl.org, has a net listing for voice nets if you wish to use voice. Many of these nets have a traffic representative/liaison that can pass your traffic up to a section net to allow the traffic to reach me.

For those that missed our online training session in April on using voice to transmit a Radiogram, the video is available [on YouTube](#).

Thanks to the following 24 amateur radio operators for their participation in May's challenge. The information gathered from this challenge will be utilized to build our SET (Simulated Emergency Test) in October. This also serves as an opportunity to exercise our National Traffic System. The more participation we have, the more we can simulate load on the NTS and give our liaison stations an opportunity to practice. I hope to see at least double this participation in June. If you have a local club newsletter, website, or social media presence, please share the monthly challenge out to help us spread the word. Full details can be found on our section website, arri-nfl.org.

AA3YB AC4QS K3CCA K4BJS K4ZSW KB4AKQ KB4VKY KD4IMA KF4ZZ KF7MYF KI4KEA KI4TRR KM4JTE KN4TWS KO4LBS KO4VEJ KX4Z N4VSP NBCBP W4CJB W4JIR WB4UBK WB4ULT WX4BTZ

Your section needs you!

We **need additional net control stations for the Northern Florida HF ARES Net** that takes place Monday through Saturday at 8:30A Eastern/7:30A Central on 3950 KHz. If you transmit and receive well across the section, **please** email me at arc.thames@srcare.org. We have a critical need for stations near the central part of the panhandle near Tallahassee and other centrally located counties. This is a great opportunity to practice for emergency activations and counts towards completion of your ARES Task Book



What's Happening? Santa Rosa County

ARC Thames, W4CPD

May brought our county's annual hurricane exercise in which all ESF (Emergency Support Functions) report to the county's Emergency Operations Center to experience a full-scale simulated activation. While the county focussed primarily on updating their skills on the WebEOC system, our ARES team took the opportunity to simulate an on-air activation from the EOC, our county's two hospitals, and a simulated evacuation shelter. This was the first time that we have been able to activate our hospitals during an exercise thanks to a renewed partnership with those agencies. A special thanks to Daisy-KT4KW, Ed-K4PFL, Jack-W4JPH, Jon-KM4QQO, and Ray-K1HG for volunteering to help our EC-Arc W4CPD.



Photo courtesy Santa Rosa County Emergency Management

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Pictured-Daisy KT4KW and Ray K1HG stationed at Gulf Breeze Hospital

For Field Day this year, we once again are partnering with other volunteer organizations that support Santa Rosa County to have them to join us in showcasing what we do for the community. From 1-6PM CDT on Saturday June 25, we will host “Volunteer Santa Rosa Day” in conjunction with ARRL Field Day at the Santa Rosa County Emergency Operations Center. We’ve currently partnered with 6 other volunteer organizations and expect to have at least a few more by Field Day. We started this on a smaller scale last year and are excited to expand upon the idea this year. Our ARES team will operate the full 24-hour field day event but we will focus on 1-6PM as our primary “public” event.

If you’re struggling to get visitors to your field day, I highly recommend this as an opportunity to reach out to other volunteer organizations in your community and see if they would be interested in joining you for Field Day. While you might not have enough time this year, this is certainly an opportunity that your team can explore for next year. We look forward to providing a full report on this year’s event in next month’s QST NFL.

For information on joining or participating in the Santa Rosa County ARES team, please reach out via email info@srcares.org, visit our website srcares.org, or [find us on Facebook](#).

Field Day Ideas

by Gordon Gibby KX4Z

Every group is different; some of these ideas may be useful for your group, or you may already have even better ideas!

Gaining Setup Skills

Getting a chance to do something with on-the-spot mentorship can be much better than just reading about it! Encourage newer participants to learn how to use the slingshot, tower trailer, or "potato gun" and raise antennas safely under careful mentorship.



New Operating Skills

For our group at least, FT8 and other data techniques have been far more productive than SSB voice. Automated immediate logging from WSJT-X into N3FJP makes it easy!¹ Mentors can introduce newer members to contest savvy of holding a frequency with CQ's or hunting and pouncing. If you can find CW ops, they can even run rings around FT8 if their speeds are fast enough. We routinely got trounced by the local CW ops in Gainesville.

Emergency Power

Some generators create enormous radio-frequency interference. Good to check for that before the Field Day opening! Generators see long extension cords as **end-fed common-mode antennas**, as well as sending differential mode radio energy into the power system. The best filters are heavy-duty ferrite/capacitor based systems that include 50+ dB of common/differential mode filtering.² You can also add a few randomly placed common-mode filters made with FT-240-43 toroids & 6-10 turns of an extension cord, at connections in your power cords, to tackle impedance nodes for different bands.

Alternate Power

Over a few years, it is amazing how many in our group have acquired solar power assets -- portable solar panels, charge controllers, very capable LiFePO4 battery systems! Discharge those systems, charge them up during Field Day and document -- makes it very easy to put your radio on alternate power and get bonus points! Our group often holds a "formal training" on just how to build your own small solar power system³, gaining bonus points as a result.



If you're cranking out digital QSO's by dozens, you may wish to find RFI-free ways to power your laptops from storage batteries. We succeeded with some FT-240-43 ferrite common mode toroids on input and output of a simple modified sine wave inverter (to 120VAC) and then older laptop power supplies that don't seem to make as much RFI.

Easy, Low-Loss Antennas

With everyone restricted to 100 watts output, you want to minimize antenna losses. In Florida, ground losses due to sandy soil poor conductivity predominate if your antenna is below about 15 feet. Try your best to get horizontal antennas ABOVE 10 feet. If you're using verticals, either lay out multiple radials or consider a full-vertical dipole ABOVE the ground by several feet. For multi-band operation, open wire line and a quality tuner are great! 4:1 Guanella Baluns for off-center-fed antennas have losses well under 1dB4; end-fed 49:1 voltage Baluns will have somewhat higher losses.⁴

¹See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwMKFgWaMNs>

²See: <https://qsl.net/nf4rc/2019/InverterGeneratorSolutions.pdf> and Specifications for a variety of power levels: <https://cdn.automationdirect.com/static/specs/mifseries.pdf>

³<https://qsl.net/nf4rc/2021/SolarPowerEducationalModule.pdf>

⁴How-To on building Balun yourself: <https://www.qsl.net/nf4rc/BalunHowTo.pdf>

Logging Multiple Transmitters

TCP/IP networking between multiple transmitting locations works well with N3FJP, and can be accomplished with an ordinary house router if your operation positions are fairly close, with Ethernet cable up to 300 feet, or with Ubiquity mesh transceivers all the way out to the contest limit of 1000 foot diameter circle. For the least interference between transmitters, you probably want to use all of that 1000 foot circle and put your operating stations far apart. Bandpass filters may also help keep receivers protected from other stations.^{5 6}

Working With Your Emergency Manager

Field Day can significantly strengthen your relationship to local Emergency Management. If you utilize Incident Command System procedures, planning, and execution, your participants will grow in this crucial understanding and your EM will likely take notice. **Set the stage that you're simulating a 24-hour complete loss of connectivity for their EOC.** This may be a chance for them to grasp some of the nuances of HF and VHF stations and antennas, and size up accurately the strengths and weaknesses of your volunteers. Taking "radiograms" from the public and sending them out gets you more points and builds understanding of your abilities as well.

Freebie VHF Station

The rules allow a VHF station to be utilized without "being counted."⁷ Six meter FT8 really *hops* on Field Day afternoon! You can add significant experience to your crew by adding in a "magic band" station and taking advantage of E_s skip to rack up additional points!

Publicity

Field Day gives you fantastic "excuses" to make presentations and requests to local governmental commissioners, agency heads, and news media. Crank up your PIO and get information out about this great "grid-down" exercise your group is doing! With all the concern about hacking of network infrastructure, there is renewed interest in alternative communications. Our head of Fire Rescue was pleasantly astonished at the healthy volunteer group serving his Emergency Manager -- and is working on a presentation to the County Commissioners. If your group is associated with your EOC, see if their publicity group will do some press releases for you from their point of view!

⁵See "Field Day Bandpass Filters", p3. <https://arrrl-nfl.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/00-QST-NFL-June-2020.pdf>

⁶Building information in greater depth: <https://qsl.net/nf4rc/2022/NFL-QSTBandpassFilterArticle.pdf>

⁷Field Day Rule 4.1.2; also applies to Class F entries. 4.8

ARRL Publishes a Club Newsletter



From the ARRL Website:

ARRL Club News is for radio clubs to show how they are working in the community and the hobby to advance amateur radio. If your club does a project, supports an event, does an EmComm activation or activates a park, we want to hear about it. You can submit your newsletter article to us at clubs@arrrl.org. We like to get them as text or Word files instead of PDFs. If you have pictures, please submit them with any caption information, as well as the name and call sign of the photographer. We want to highlight the good work being done by the clubs and show others in the community of clubs. Think of this as a chance to show off your club and your programs.

ARRL Foundation Offers Grants to Clubs



From the ARRL Website:

A new **ARRL Foundation** Club Grants program, funded by a grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (**ARDC**), will make \$500,000 available to radio clubs. The program will provide up to \$25,000 for worthy club projects. Requests for more than that will be referred back to ARDC.

ARRL has long recognized that it is in the best interests of amateur radio to encourage and support amateur radio clubs. Clubs historically have recruited, licensed, and trained new radio amateurs and have provided the community setting for radio amateurs to continue their education and training. The new Club Grants program will help clubs more easily provide and expand their important services.

Loften High School Participates in National EMS Week

Nineteen student operators from Lofton High School in Gainesville spoke with 827 HAM operators from May 16-22 for the annual National EMS Week. They used the Special Event call sign: **N4E** (regular call sign K4WTL) and passed along "Safety Tips" to everyone they spoke with.

33 countries were contacted during this event. 154 were on CW and the remaining 673 were on Phone. A sister station, **VB3EMS** also operated in this event from London, Ontario.

"If just ONE person's life is saved due to our efforts, then the time and effort was well worth it" stated Bob Lightner (W4GJ) K4WTL Trustee.



Jacob at the mic, Nate logging.



Josh at the mic, Serenity logging
(Serenity made the most contacts!)



Milly at the mic, Emilio logging.

QRP, Cheap Amplifiers, and Closet Shopping

Leland Gallup, AA3YB, Alachua County, FL

I don't know about you, but supply chain disruptions/shortages have really been a problem for me – impulse buying amateur radio operator that I am. I yield to temptation and weakness far too often when it comes to shiny new things for my shack or go kit(s). But what to do when one just can't GET stuff? That's the time to shop in the closet...go look on your selves, in your junk piles, in your boxes of neglected and forgotten radio gear. Maybe something in there will scratch the itch for gear that's been frustrated by the pandemic!

So it was for me this past week. It started when I was playing with (er, I mean seriously operating) my cheapo Xiegu G90 miniature SDR (software defined radio). The G90 puts out 20 watts on HF. It's not technically a QRP (low power) radio, because it can put out 20 watts, instead of the classic 10 watts (phone) for QRP, but it's clearly in that category. It covers 160-10 meters, has a killer internal tuner (I'm convinced it could find a match for my rain gutter), and sports a tiny but actually usable color screen with spectrum scope and waterfall. The G90 is small...the front plate you see below is less than five inches long, and two high. The color waterfall display is 2" diagonal. It's tiny but I find I can actually use it.

But wait – there's more. Along with a XGComms Digimode 4 soundcard interface and a notebook computer, I can use the G90 to work all the digital modes I enjoy for emergency communications (EMCOMM), such as Winlink, JS8 Call, FT8, and PSK31. All of this with a 2.9A current drain at a full 20w TX, and 600mA on receive. The "naked" G90 runs off my LiFePo4 batteries for a long time – with my solar gear I am good to go for extended off grid operation. Add an easily deployable end fed half wave antenna and I'm off to the EMMCOMM races.

What's the problem, then? Well, what if 20w just isn't enough? Sure, an operator could haul out a standard deployable QRO (full power) rig, such as an Icom IC-7300. That'd provide 100 watts of TX punch...but at the cost of weight, size, and around 1.5 A of current drain just on RX (receive). So much for living on LiFePo4 batteries for a long time. Is there an alternative if you need more than QRP, but don't want to pay the size/current drain price of a typical QRO transceiver?



Maybe there is. I have been following the growing trend among emergency communications "influencers" such as Julian, OH8STN, who advocate "low current" drain QRP radios such as the Icom IC-705, Xiegu 6100, or the Discovery Labs 590 (now Russian-made unobtainium). If Julian wants more power, he couples these radios with an amplifier to get close to the magic QRO of 100 watts out. We are not talking monster amplifiers such as Ameritrons with 572B's....we are talking small amplifiers; you know, the kind that tempts impulse buyers on eBay. The combination of low current drain QRP with a small amplifier yields something with much less size and current drain in normal QRP operation than you have to suffer with a QRO radio such as an IC-7300. You only need use the amplifier if you actually need more than QRP. And you get can get current drain of less than 4 mA RX and 2 A on QRP TX with the un-amplified radios. A plug and play approach means much longer operation in the field, less size, and less weight.

So why not always adopt this approach? Cost, that's why. Check the price of an IC-705 and you'll see what I mean – and that doesn't even get you an amplifier. Xiegu, the maker of the G90, also makes an amplifier called the XPA125B, that allegedly works with the G90 and perhaps other QRP radios such as the IC-705; yet the XPA125B costs two hundred dollars MORE than my G90. And try to find any amplifier these days for this niche: very difficult. There is also the complexity factor. The modular approach means separate transceiver and amplifier – more boxes, more cables, more points of possible failure. One stop QRO shopping does have certain advantages.

OK, I'm in. I want to explore the modular approach. In my search for a QRP amplifier solution that didn't cost more than my radio, I hit upon shopping in my closet. Lo and behold, I discovered a Radioddity PAX100 amplifier buried under a pile of boxes on one of my dustier shelves. Because I'm an impulse buyer, with something like a "fire and forget" mentality, I'd bought the Radioddity offering many months ago and promptly flushed the purchase from my memory banks. Impulse buyers can be like

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that. Trust me. Too many dollars and not enough sense. However, I did dimly remember something about the Radioddity, which is why I went searching.

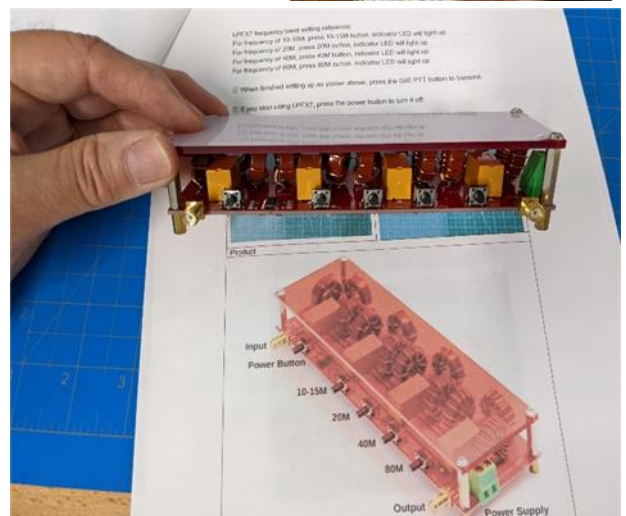
The Radioddity PAX100 was (it's been discontinued) made for the G90. It cost less than \$200. Radioddity claimed that it'd put out up to 100 watts given a reasonable input, and would do 80m, 40m, 20m, and 15-10m with separate button switches. Wow!!! Could this be the answer to my question of how to get QRO from QRP? Time to get this thing up and running.

Take a look at the image of the PAX100 to the right. You can see through the clear red plastic to the insides; and the disc on the bottom of the image is the amplifier's cooling fan. The box is 4.4" by 2.24", and just over 1.75" high. Wow...is the PAX100 small or what? It's obviously not a prime-time Japanese work of manufacturing art, but it doesn't cost Icom dollars, either.

Because the PAX100 is a cheap HF amplifier made in China, it may tend to produce spurious emissions...so I also bought the Radioddity LPFX7 low pass filter to go along with it. Something like 70 dollars, and said to suppress harmonics on the 80m band ">51 dB." You'll see how many coils are in the box in some of the images below. A lot of chokes! That should make for pretty decent harmonic suppression.



Now take a look at the LPFX7 low pass filter. What you see in the picture to the right is my hand holding the actual filter. You can't really tell from this picture, but it's slightly larger than the PAX100 amplifier. You can also see that I'm holding the filter on top of a page from the LPFX7's instructions, and there you see the LPFX7 from above. It's easy to see the toroid coils on the inside as well as the buttons to be used when operating on different HF bands.



The LPFX7 filter has the same "homebrew" appearance as the PAX100 amplifier. Again, not a shining example of industrial design. The filter requires separate power and must be manually switched when changing operating bands.

The PAX100 amplifier also has certain, well, "operating constraints." It needs its own 12v DC power. It cannot be used with the G90's fantastic internal tuner, which means the PAX100 needs to feed an antenna that is pretty much dead resonant – under 1.5 SWR or the final transistors are in mortal peril, so the instructions warn. I am fearful. Very fearful. Please let there be no "poof" and smoke when I power on!

I now have three separate boxes to power and connect: the radio, the amplifier, and the filter. I decided to use PowerPole connectors where possible; even so, with the control cables, power cables, and a PowerPole distribution block (additional \$25), what have I got? A rat's nest for the EM-COMM ham, that's what I've got. Just look at the tangle of wires, cables, and jumpers in the picture just below.

OK, OK. Yes, it's rat's nest of things, look at the diminutive proportions. Even though we're talking the G90, the PAX100 amplifier, the LPFX7 low pass filter (silver covered box to the left of the red amplifier), a battery (LiFePo4 8 Ahr), and the PowerPole distribution block, the whole package is in fact small. Very small.



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Radioddity's ad says the amplifier can yield 100 watts upon hitting PTT on the mic. Really? Can I really believe the ad copy? Well, we're hams. We trust but verify. In order to measure power out, I ran the coax from the filter's "output" port through my Daiwa CN-901 SWR & Power meter. I set it to show the 200 watts scale, and I enabled the peak envelope power hold function, which gives a pretty good indication on SSB phone of what kind of power is actually going to the antenna (at least forward power).

I chose to test this assemblage on my home station permanent antenna, an end fed half wave, which is well under 1.5:1 SWR all the way across the phone portion of the 20m band. It's now or never. I turned on the radio. Gulp. The amplifier came on by itself, or at least its cooling fan did. Now I pushed the power button on the LPFX7...magic blue light appeared when I pressed the 20m button. Apparently I have connected everything up correctly (thank you, PowerPoles). Look at the screen of the G90 at the beginning of the article. It is set for a TX power of 3 watts. Hard to make out in the picture, but trust me. 3 watts output going from the G90 to the PAX100 amplifier. Time to see if I get fire and smoke!

It was about 1300 EDT. I went to the area around 14.300 MHz and found a station in Ontario, calling CQ on 14.310 MHz. I waited to see if anyone answered him. No one answered. So I keyed the mic and answered his CQ. No fire, no smoke, and VA3AAA immediately came back! He gave me a 5/9 signal report and said my signal was very nicely modulated. Holy cow! Did the amplifier/filter combination actually work? I looked at the power meter. I had it set to hold the peak envelope power so I could get some idea on phone as to actual power going out.



This is what it showed. I know it's difficult to make out, but the meter shows that the G90 and amplifier/filter combination was putting out 55 watts PEP with three watts out from the G90. To see how things worked if I increased the power out from the G90, I tried output at 5 watts and 8 watts. Both showed the same power out that I got from 3 watts. Obviously no increased power if I send more than three watts from the "exciter" (the G90).

How am I to assess the difference this level of amplification makes? The rule of thumb we apply is that one "S unit" increase in signal on the receiving end requires 6 dB of gain from the transmitting side...all of which should equate to "twice as loud" at the receiving station. To get that 6 dB increase over 20 watts, for example, we should double the 20 watts to 40, and then double again – 80 watts TX. This means that – theoretically – I'd have to have my little amplifier push out 80 watts with a full 20 watts in from the G90 to get "twice as loud" for the receiving station. I know that this is just not possible based on my experience with this kit. Not only will the PAX100 not tolerate 20 watts in (it says in the instructions to limit power in to no more than 10 watts), it is the case that anything over 3 watts in to the PAX100 is wasted. It appears that 55 watts is my ground truth reality.

So what is the bottom line on my "closet shopping" expedition and experiment? I do in fact have an inexpensive amplifier and filter for my G90 and it does in fact work. It may not put out 100 watts, but it does put out 55. Is this enough of a difference from the barefoot 20 watts maximum of the G90 to be worth the trouble? I know that the test yielded a solid mid-day 5/9 into Ontario on phone; but I did not test the same contact with the barefoot G90 to get a good comparison.

As I think about it, I consider my closet shopping a success! I had fun putting all these bits together, albeit not in a rigorous empirical sort of way. With some cleanup of wires and zip-tying things together, I think I can have a very small, deployable, QRP/QRO (sort of) rig. I get the benefits of lowish current drain on RX and TX when operating the barefoot G90, and the benefit of 55 or so watts out when I need more power to get through – and that might be enough extra power to make a difference.

Maybe Julian and the QRP low current drain/amplifier crew are on to something. What I know for sure is that I scratched the issue to get something NOW. In this, the era of pandemics, supply chain disruptions, and the dreaded "unavailable," shopping in my closet worked. Maybe you should try it!

Slingshot Tips

by Gordon Gibby KX4Z

We've been using slingshots for years to place antenna-supporting lines in abundant North Florida trees, up to about 50 feet. I'm certainly not an expert, but it has worked well for us. Some of the Alachua County crew have purchased or constructed air-powered mini-potato rifles also, which have even greater range. This article gives just a few tips on using a simple slingshot to place lines.

Accuracy. I think there are two key factors here. A wrist brace seems to be key. I use a simple slingshot purchased from Amazon, that has a folding wrist brace. Without that brace, I can't keep a simple "Y" type hand-held slingshot holding still during the release. The brace makes it easy. Secondly, that very floppy leather "pocket" seems to be extremely important for accuracy with a lead fishing weight. A replacement band with a stiffer pocket turned out to be completely useless. Replacing the "pocket" with the old leather one brought it back to perfect working order.



Projectile. I prefer an "egg sinker" fishing weight in the 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 ounce range. Heavier doesn't go as far, and I get concerned about possible accidental damage. These have a hole drilled straight through which makes it easy to attach a line. Acquire several.

SAFETY. Obviously we aren't perfectly accurate, and the lead fishing weight can often hit a branch or a tree and go somewhere we didn't expect. Stay AWAY from power lines! Always try to avoid choosing a direction toward windows, cars, other expensive items. At Field Day, best to get lines up and over before all the cars park in risky locations.

Graded Sizes of Lines. My usual goal is to either get the line over a specific limb or over an entire tree if the branches are too thick. Only a very lightweight, low-friction line can be pulled to an apex 50-60 feet by a light fishing weight. And they are amazingly difficult to FIND on the other side! My friend Sam Register clued me into fluorescent orange braided fishing line. I prefer 60- or 80- pound test. This is much easier to work with than the usual mono-filament. Consider a version of: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00MGA5WJ6> I keep a couple of spools of this on hand. Spread at least twice the desired height in line out over pavement or asphalt or a sheet in long columns in front of you if possible – if there are twigs on the grass, the line will always get tangled and your distance will be severely reduced. After a successful placement of the fishing line over a desirable branch, go to the far side, cut off the fishing weight and tie on a nylon or nylon-polypropylene mix twine, approximately #18 up to 3/32" size. Be certain that the twine you choose is fairly strong. Reel back in all of the fishing line, pulling the line backwards over your limb. Now tie on a stronger line, up to perhaps 1/4" size – para-cord works well or twisted or braided nylon. Make sure your ties between different sized lines are strong and secure – sometimes a simple knot between a small and a larger line can allow the smaller line to slip out...disastrously. Finally, if the 1/4" size isn't up to the task, you can then pull up 3/8" or 1/2" rope to finish off the project.

Stuck. Inevitably you will end up with a fishing weight "stuck" up a tree. Be CAREFUL when pulling back on such a line – you don't want it to come zinging back and **kerplunk** right into your face! Sometimes you'll have to give up and simply cut it off (above nuisance height) and leave it. The orange fishing line degrades in the sunlight and will be almost invisible in weeks. Having extra fishing weights and braided fishing line is a good plan. I keep a "kit" for this purpose in a plastic tool box. The slingshot band will degrade after a few years, so periodically provide a spare. Just remember to use the floppiest "pocket" you have.

Maintenance Day at the LARA Clubhouse

Frank Anders, KK4MBX

LARA members and their spouses come together for spring cleaning and maintenance at our clubhouse. The clubhouse got a thorough cleaning inside and out, we performed maintenance on our generator and tested the automated transfer system. Also, we assembled new beam antennas for field day.

Pictured Laura and Diane, cleaning the clubhouse, Jay, N4KXO, adjusting the security system, Lenny, KD4LBM and Glenn, AA4UC, maintaining the generator and Dave KE7BMG, Gary KJ4HYV, Ken KN4MDJ, Roger KV4I, Jeff KN4NCC,



Gator Amateur Radio Club | March & April 2022

W4DFU NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT LEADERS

Hello, we would like to introduce ourselves to all of the friends of GARC. Our leadership team consists of our President Matthew Self, Vice President David Schnoor, Secretary Lukas Vivolo, and Treasurer Will

Davis. This past school year, we successfully reregistered GARC with Student Government and held a few events. We hope to reach out to potential members and the UF community some more this upcoming Fall semester and are extremely grateful for all the support from the alumni network, especially Dr. Jay Garlitz AA4FL and Dr. David Fox NN4DF. We plan on sending out newsletters like this every couple of months to share what W4DFU is doing and planning.

73 de W4DFU!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Summer Zoom meetings will focus on the ARDC grant that the club is working on.
- A Zoom link will be posted on the GARC Facebook group and Discord server prior to each meeting.
- The meetings for May and June will be:
 - May 19th at 8:15 pm
 - June 2nd at 8:15 pm
 - June 16th at 8:15 pm
 - June 30th at 8:15 pm

SUMMER GOALS

- ☒ Submit the ARDC Grant Proposal
- ☒ Prepare for the upcoming Fall Semester
- ☒ Have a great summer with Ham Radio!

GET CONNECTED WITH GARC!

- Join our Discord Server, the primary source for up-to-date info and conversation.
 - Link: discord.gg/z3yBhUrNsk
- Join our Facebook Page!
 - Link: facebook.com/groups/W4DFU
- Check out our Website
 - Link: gatorradio.org
- Contact us with any questions/concerns:
 - Email: leaders@gatorradio.org



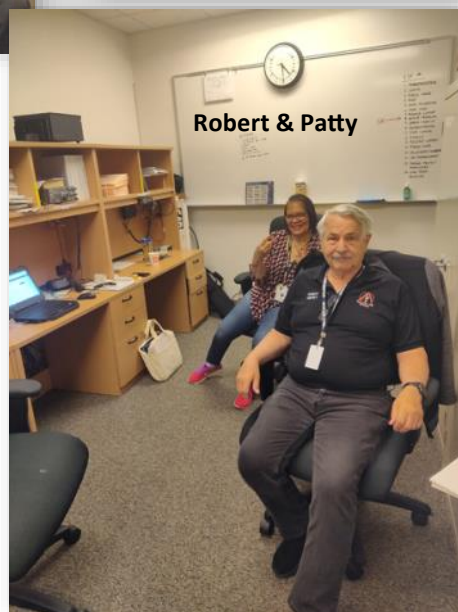
[More Info.....](#)

What's Happening? Okaloosa County

Robert Dallons, KM4VKY

On April 22, in preparation for the upcoming hurricane season, Okaloosa County gathered all Emergency Support teams for training with a simulated hurricane at the Emergency Operations Center in Niceville. Groups were made up of various support personnel to include leadership from County Departments, municipalities, utilities, law enforcement and logistics-related experts. This process was a valuable exercise to ensure our County is prepared to keep citizens safe and informed during an emergency situation.

ESF-2 was supported by Okaloosa County ARES Group, Robert Dallons KM4VKY, Bruce Adams KA5DLV, and Patti Adams KM4OZK.



Radio Amateur Volunteers Serving Florida County EOC Communications

by Gordon Gibby KX4Z

One of the happy outcomes of our 2021 deployment exercise **Whirlwind Boom**¹, was building much stronger relationships between NFL Section volunteers and several county Emergency Management departments. Chief among those was Flagler County Emergency Management, where Ryan Simpson FPEM, Emergency Management Senior Planner, proved to be a professional exercise planner who is building a great community radio communications group. His Incident Action Plan for Whirlwind Boom showed obvious professional skills.

Ryan has followed up with the creation of monthly communications drills available to comms teams serving EOCs at multiple Florida Counties. These drills are written up in the standard HSEEP format, and include a bunch of different alternative communications techniques: *SHARES* southeastern and nationwide voice nets, Florida county-to-county voice communications on both amateur and federal (*SHARES*) frequencies; *WINLINK* emails on both amateur and federal (*SHARES*) systems, satellite phone communications, and the *Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS)*. Conducted on the last Wednesday of each month, these drills have been a great growth tool for several county teams to dust off radios they didn't know they had, and to learn new techniques for emergency communications.



HF Reality

These drills have grappled with real-life communications issues. Particularly the difficulties of day-time modest-distance HF communications! D-layer absorption is fierce on the lower ranges of the HF spectrum during the day, driven by sunlight-induced ionization.² At 3.5 MHz the absorption for a link between two nearby counties has been measured at approx. 25+ dB. Inversely related to frequency, it gets better as you go upwards in frequency -- but if you go above the Critical Frequency, short-range communications become impossible as the waves are no longer refracted by the ionosphere, and just zoom out into the universe.³

Added to this frequency squeeze is the problem that many EOC's limit themselves to vertical tower or mast type HF antennas, of both the trapped resonant type design (better) and transformer-matched, non-resonant vertical type (arguably worse). For intra-state communications and particularly nearby county-to-county communications, these type antennas are decidedly disadvantaged not only due to poor Florida soil conductivity leading to excessive ground losses unless an extensive radial system can be maintained against all the efforts of commercial grass cutters, but even more because vertical antennas have a well-described NULL at near-vertical incidence....**so they send very little power in the direction necessary for short-range HF communications.** They're much better for reaching the west coast!

Enter Advanced JS8

Real-life drills have proven that county-to-county HF comms fail regularly with many of our counties, and as a result, we are branching out of SSB voice and beginning to try advanced modulations that have significant advantages. JS8Call offers 25-30 dB advantages over voice for HF SSB contacts. On May 6th, several counties' volunteers held a 90-minute Zoom educational conference with on-the-air testing and for a while maintained successful county-to-county communications with new-found JS8 skills -- until a freak dive in the critical frequency really knocked us down. However, the participants were encouraged that we can succeed -- especially if some counties can add in a bit of horizontal-type antenna assets to their backup communications mix.

As part of this effort, 24/7/365 JS8 cache/relay station AA3YB provided by Leland Gallup of Alachua County, has been improved and now sports a "group" dedicated toward county communications.

If your county would like to join in on some of this great drilling and training, have someone from your Emergency Management office contact Ryan Simpson at Flagler County - rsimpson@flaglercounty.gov, or at Flagler County Board of County Commissioners, Emergency Management, 1769 E. Moody Blvd, Bldg #3, Bunnell, FL, 386-313-4200.

¹AAR/IP: <https://qsl.net/nf4rc/FBDR/2021/WhirlwindBoomAARIP.pdf>

²See educational paper: <https://qsl.net/nf4rc/2020/3Dlayerabsorption.pdf>

³See educational paper: <https://qsl.net/nf4rc/2020/CriticalFrquency.pdf>

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TAILGATE



SILVER SPRINGS RADIO CLUB

DATE: June 4, 2022
TIME: 9:00am to Noon (setup 8:00am)
LOCATION: Green Clover Hall Parking Lot
319 SE 26th Terrace
Ocala, FL
Marion County Governmental Complex

ADMISSION: FREE

VENDOR FEE: \$5 / TAILGATE SPACE

CLEAN OUT YOUR SHACK, OPEN THOSE OLD BOXES AND SELL YOUR UNUSED RADIO AND RADIO RELATED ITEMS.

ALL TAILGATERS RESPONSIBLE FOR OWN TABLES, CHAIRS, ETC. TO DISPLAY THEIR ITEMS.

COFFEE & DONUTS AVAILABLE FOR SALE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

ALL PROCEEDS TO HELP FUND NEW DMR REPEATER BEING INSTALLED AT GREEN CLOVER HALL.

Okaloosa and Walton County Keying Up!

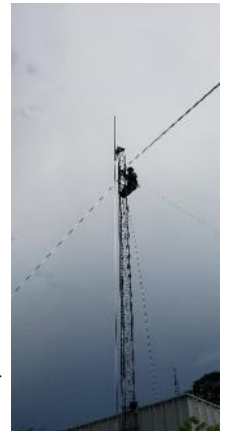
DJ Stewart , KI4ZER, VP Walton County ARC, VP NOARC, Activities Director PARC.

Hello to all of you fellow Amateur Radio operators! We sure hope your month has been great and provided you with many splendors in the world of Ham radio! Busy as a bee we have all been out here in the NFL area surrounding Okaloosa and Walton Counties!

We start our month off in Walton County attending the Walton County Amateur Radio Club and their Business meeting. This was a good one as they finalized plans for the DeFuniak Springs Lake Fest! Also moved on was the plan for the tower reconstruction work. In fact, throughout the month, the Walton County Amateur Radio Club overall had the most action and interaction to boot! The first item outside of their business meeting was Lake Fest! Multiple Hams came out to partner with the city and many other organizations to brief the public and political officials alike while also simultaneously participating in the Youth on The Air (YOTA) Contest! What a great weekend and interaction. Many residents in Walton County came out and were significantly intrigued by the capability to communicate worldwide on just battery power and portable antenna systems. If you missed this event, you missed a great time! Be sure to attend it next year!

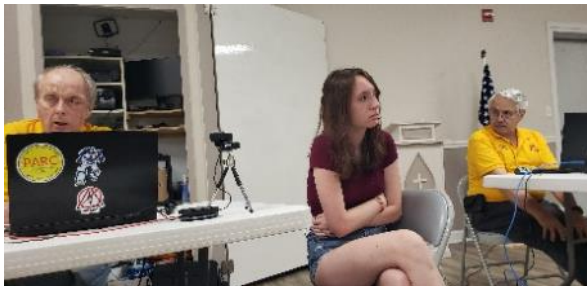


Following that, the Walton County Amateur Radio Club met up with some of the Friends in Okaloosa County to assist with their tower rebuild. The beam came down, was reworked, tested and tuned, a new mast pole was put up and a new thrust bearing was added. As well, the rotor was inspected, tested, serviced and wired. All those items minus the rotor were done just as some storms came rolling in. So, the crew had to stop, and the Club will discuss a way forward at their next meeting on 7 June 2022.



Between those two events we found ourselves at the Walton County EOC for the ARES meeting! W4CJB and his team really are putting together a great crew and program to adapt with the changes in Florida for the EMCOMM/AUXCOMM environment! They even held a class over Zoom to teach operators previously unfamiliar with WINLINK on its functions and capabilities. Whether in person or on-line, the WCARES folks combined with the Walton County Amateur Radio Club have a great investment into their programs, developments and showcase the hobby to all who pursue it!

During these crazy few weeks, we also found ourselves in Fort Walton Beach for a Technical Night on Amateur Radio Weather Stations presented by KN4UDS, Activities Director of the North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club! What a great presentation and masterful instruction this was which inspired many operators to begin set up of their own capabilities and begin reporting weather statistics to the National Weather Service, Enroll in Storm Spotting Classes and take away some knowledge that will last a lifetime! Moving to the North in Crestview we were fortunate to attend the North Okaloosa Business Meeting and hear their Plans for Field Day! This should be a great event at Spanish Trail Park in Crestview. If you have a moment to stop in, please do! Speaking of Field Days, the folks in the Playground Amateur radio Club will be having an open event as well and a solid plan to do it at the Club-house for the first time in a few years! Make both if you can!



More fun in Crestview as we returned for a Tech Night hosted by N4GXX! He taught us about Digital Communications and the operating software's available to include but not limited to FLDIGI, MMTY, HRDs DM 780 and more! This was a seriously informative discussion covering the modes, radios and equipment necessary to Ham Radio in ways that are evolving from the old RTTY days in a constant state!

Continued on next page...

This brings us to Memorial Day Weekend. We found ourselves attending the Playground Amateur Radio Club's Tower rebuild event. All levels of Hams were on deck to learn how to repair, install components, test, operate and tune towers! Instruction was also given, and lessons learned were shared to encourage future climbers as well as educate them for how to practice safety and achieve goals! Unfortunately, after the first re-run of Guy Wires was completed, a surprise storm popped up and the crew had to pack it in. They met afterwards in the Clubhouse and decided on 12 June 2022 at 0800 to complete the rest of the work. At the same time the members of PARC also discussed Sunday June the 5th for a vertical Antenna raising now that their Vertical post is set into new concrete. Be sure to catch them and come by for physical assistance or moral support for wither event! They are always eager to open their doors and teach the masses!

As you all know upcoming events are no strange thing in the Panhandle but here is something to place on your calendar for the next month of June not mentioned in the above writing:

Walton County Amateur Radio Club Tailgate! YES, Another one! Free to all at the Liberty Fire Station No. 7 on U.S. Hwy 90 West in DeFuniak Springs on June the 11th! Come on out, open your trunks, drop your tailgates and enjoy the food truck! See you all there starting at 800 AM!



Going Mobile in the Florida QSO Party (April 30-May 1)

Wayne Brown, N4FP

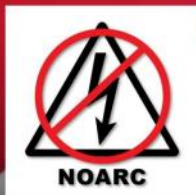
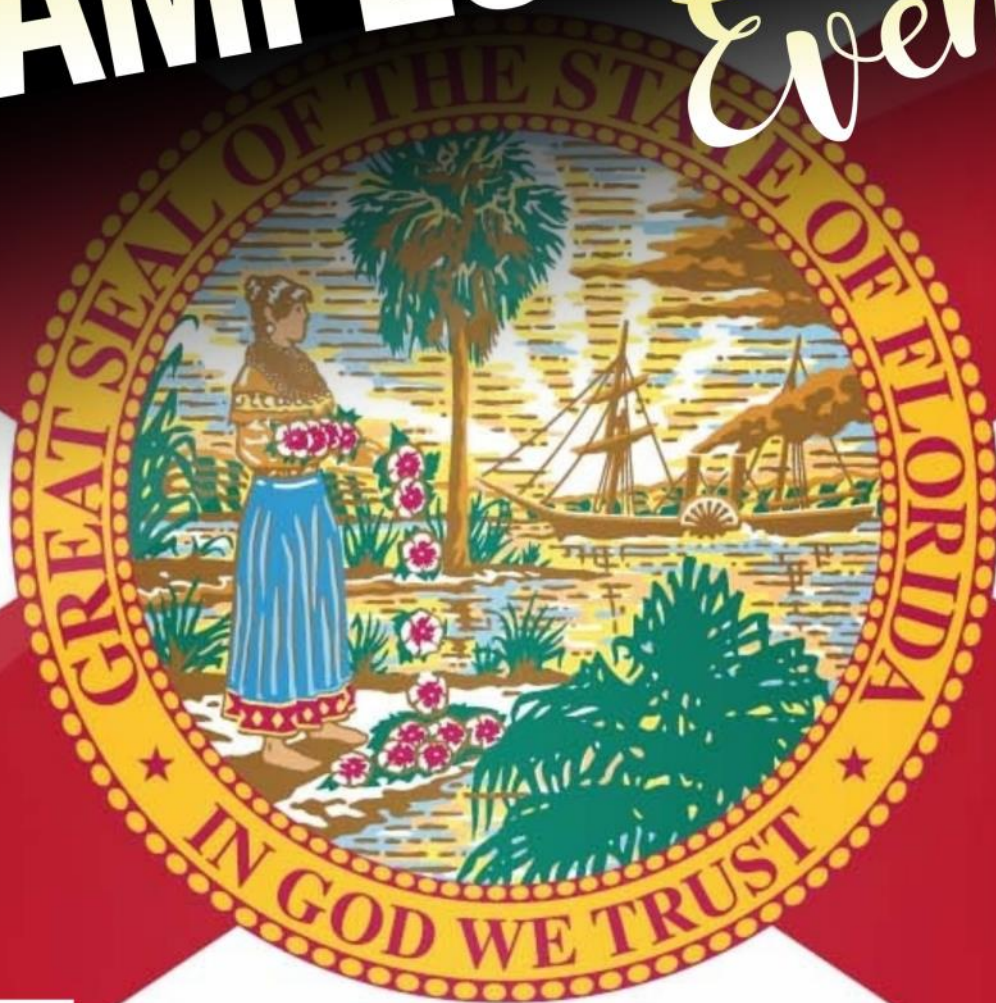
Pete, K2PS and I had a relatively successful FQP weekend, even with antenna trouble on Sunday that forced an early end for us. Saturday we left The Villages and worked 16 counties to the west and north. We spent Saturday night at my QTH in Ocala. Marty, N4GL, had a welcome dinner ready for us at 10 pm. Sunday we headed northeast then towards Orlando when an antenna loading problem ended our operation with 3.5 hours remaining in the 20 hour contest. I dropped Pete off and when I reached home I was able to work 31 contacts in the last 15 minutes using a Ham Stick that Joe Rudi, NK7U had loaned us. We made 1507 CW contacts, averaging 90 per hour, in 28 counties. Our station, on a bench in the back seat, was a Flex 6400 running 100 watts to 3 Hustler antennas all mounted horizontally atop a 3 ft mast mag mounted to the roof. This gave us instant band switching. 20 meters was by far the best band with 1340 contacts, 119 on 40, and 48 on 15. Every time we hit a new county we had a new pileup. Pete ended up with 757 contacts and I had 750. The antenna problem turned out to be a rusted stud screw that connects the mast to the mag mount and feedline. It has been retired.



ANNUAL HAMFEST

15 | OCTOBER
2022

Event



1446 COMMERCE DR
CRESTVIEW, FL

8 AM TO 2 PM
W4AAZ.ORG

Florida Baptist Disaster Relief Wraps Up Annual Training Weekends in North Florida

by Gordon Gibby KX4Z

Florida Baptist Disaster Relief wraps up another year of pre-season volunteer training in every Florida region with Saturday training May 21 in Tallahassee and Chipley the following Saturday. Their **Communications Technology** group, led by **Mike Sprenger W4UOO**, held Advanced and Basic level introductory training at each location, with **Nik Murabito WA3GTU** often teaching. A great group of Florida hams were all part of the effort, and **Art Gibson AE4AG** is updating documentation of the continuously improving "Mobile Command Unit" which includes all the communications gear.

At the Tallahassee training, **Tim Lynn KD5SSF** showcased his deployment techniques for others to gain ideas. Using an inexpensive extendable flag pole available on Amazon, he created a simple and



effective multiband inverted vee deployment antenna that requires no pre-existing supports. The flagpole is stabilized by a PVC sheath-pipe connected to cross piece wooden members on the ground. Simple guy wires and the antenna itself help keep everything centered. Using carefully placed insulators with PowerPole connectors and shorting-pieces to allow addition or removal of segments, and a pulley system to raise and lower the antenna, he can quickly configure it for any desired band.



Operating with a simple go-box in the back of his vehicle, and a powerful LiFePO4 battery, Tim quickly tried multiple 40 meter WINLINK RMS's in a live demonstration just before lunch - a difficult time of the day due to enhanced D-layer absorption on 80-meters. With his direct frequency control of an ICOM7300, he could quickly move from one trial connection to another, and within five minutes he had a STRONG connection to a 40-meter RMS as a demonstration to the assembled crowd of Advanced Communications volunteers. Great example of how a reconnaissance unit scouting out a proposed site for Disaster Relief operations could get word back -- and possibly even low-resolution photos -- of "ground truth" status of a possible site. Sure beats traveling hours back through roof-nail infested roads blocked by debris and disabled vehicles (flat tires) to reach working cell phone land! Tim's setup looks like a one-man Field Day!



The Mobile Command Unit, a massive trailer brimming with satellite, HF, VHF, UHF comm gear and repeaters, has been re-configured to allow the "Administration" unit of

Florida Baptist Disaster Relief to inhabit the rear conference area, handling all the important details of a disaster team fielding hundreds of job requests and scores of volunteers. The front half of the six-tire trailer houses the racked radio and networking gear as well as the HF/VHF/UHF transceivers-- and a 10kW Diesel Generator in a soundproofed enclosure. Thanks to extensive fuel tank rework by **Art Gibson AE4AG**, the 10kW diesel is now used at every training and has access to almost 2 days' fuel if needed. Unfortunately the high-earth-orbit satellite VSAT system is out of sync again, but Florida Baptist has applied for Starlink low-earth-orbit portable internet access. The new multi-vendor cell data capture system has been performing wonders.



FCC Testing Information

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)

- Third Saturday of every month
- Seminole County Sheriff's Office, 100 Eslinger Way, 1st Floor, Sanford, FL
- Registration Required
- For more information and registration, contact Bob Cumming, W2BZY, 407-333-0690 or w2bzy@cfl.rr.com

Milton Amateur Radio Club, Milton FL

- Check date at miltonarc.org
- Walk-in
- Bagdad United Methodist Church
- Info: Chuck, N4QEP, merlinman3@yahoo.com

Orlando Amateur Radio Club

- First Wednesday
- 5:30 PM, Walk-ins allowed
- ARRL/VEC
- Central Florida Fairgrounds Craft Building, 4603 W Colonial Drive, East Gate off Fair Villa Road
- Info: testing@orac.org, Robert Cumming, 407-333-0690

Santa Rosa County FL ARES Testing (Walk-in)

- Information and dates can be found at srcares.org

Seminole County

- Every month on the third Saturday
- 9:15 AM
- Seminole County Sheriff's Office off SR 17-92, on 100 Eslinger Way in Sanford, FL
- Info: Bob Cumming, W2BZY, w2bzy@cfl.rr.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)

The Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society (TARS) has begun limited License testing. Please refer to the following for the updated testing dates and requirements for individuals wishing to take exams. <https://k4tlh.net/fag/license-testing/>

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>

This information is subject to change. Check with the testing venue to confirm the testing session.

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

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

Jeff Capehart W4UFL

Neil Light KK4VHX

Ray Crepeau K1HG

Steve Szabo WB4OMM

Scott Roberts KK4ECR

Section Emergency Coordinator – Arc Thames W4CPD

Section Public Information Coordinator— Scott Roberts KK4ECR

Section Technical Coordinator – Frank Haas KB4T

Affiliated Club Coordinator – Appointment Pending

Section Traffic Manager – Helen Straughn WC4FSU

Official Observer Coordinator – Robert Leasko WB8PAF

State Government Liaison – Darrell Brock N4GOA

Statewide Digital Radio Resources

Did you know we have designated ARES DSAR Reflectors & a DMR Talkgroup?

- **DSTAR Reflector 046**
 - o REF046A – Florida Statewide
 - o REF046B – NFL ARES
 - o REF046C – NWS Mobile, AL SKYWARN
- **DMR Florida State ARES TG 31127**

Feel free to link your local repeaters to help create a digital repeater network through the state!

Looking for Something?

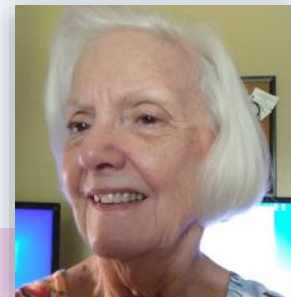
Gordon Gibby, KX4Z, has taken the time to index the articles from all the 2021 issues of **QST NFL**! The link below takes you to a pdf of all the articles in alphabetical order. This link is also on the arrrl-nfl.org website newsletter tab.

<https://arrrl-nfl.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2021QSTNFLIndex.pdf>



Newsletter of the Northern Florida Section of the ARRL

Marty Brown, N4GL, Editor
n4gl.marty@gmail.com



QST NFL is a monthly publication of the ARRL Northern Florida Section. **QST NFL** is intended for wide distribution within the NFL Section, including club Leaders and all licensed Amateurs in Florida. A current issue of this publication can be found at the ARRL Southeastern Division web site, Northern Florida Section. www.ARRL-NFL.org Opinions expressed by writers are their own, and may not express the positions of the ARRL. Submissions may be made to the editor, Marty Brown, N4GL.MARTY@gmail.com. All submissions are subject to editing prior to publication.