

Treasure Coast Ham News

APRIL 2022

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4

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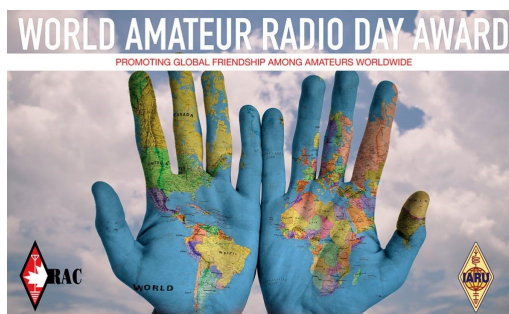
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World Amateur Radio Day



On April 18, radio amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. It was on this day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was formed in Paris.

Amateur Radio experimenters were the first to discover that the short wave spectrum — far from being a wasteland — could support worldwide propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths Amateur Radio was “in grave danger of being pushed aside,” the IARU’s history has noted. Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to support Amateur Radio worldwide.

Just two years later at the International Radiotelegraph Conference, Amateur Radio gained the allocations still recognized today — 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters. Since its founding, the IARU has worked tirelessly to defend and expand the frequency allocations for Amateur Radio.

Thanks to the support of enlightened administrations in every part of the globe, radio amateurs are now able to experiment and communicate in frequency bands strategically located throughout the radio spectrum. From the 25 countries that formed the IARU in 1925, the Union has now grown to include 160 member-societies in three regions.

Today, there are more than 3,000,000 licensed amateurs worldwide!



Florida State Parks on the Air, April 2-3, 2022

Port St Lucie Amateur Radio Association (PSLARA) will operate on Saturday, April 2nd and maybe Sunday, April 3rd at the **Savannas Preserve (SAV) State Park**. Please contact [Bruce, WA3RHW](#) for details. Everyone is welcome to operate at the Savannas Preserve during the event.

For more information please go to: <http://flspota.org>.

From the Publishers

* * * * *

The Russian invasion of Ukraine is now in its 2nd month. The courage and resilience of the Ukrainian people to stand up to Russia’s leadership, military and sophisticated weaponry, is astounding. Every American should take note of the unprovoked devastation Russia continues to inflict on Ukrainian cities and population. Democratic countries are in full support of the Ukrainian effort to be free from Russia’s unwarranted and aggressive invasion of a sovereign country.

* * * * *

BITS AND BITES

TC Ham News is excited to welcome the [Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club](#) to our newsletter community. The club has a long history serving hams in the northern part of the Lake Okeechobee area. I can remember attending their hamfests in the 80s and more recently at the Freedom Ranch. Their hamfests were a wonderful reminiscence of those great years of ham radio.

The Okeechobee hams are a friendly group. If you are out that way, please make an effort to meet them on Monday nights at 8.00pm when the club holds their weekly net (147.195, pl tone 100.0). The club’s ARES net is the second Tuesday of each month at 8.00pm on 147.195, pl tone 100.0.

If you would like more information about the club, please send an email to [John Schwartz, KM4CRA](#). John is also the Okeechobee Co. ARES Emergency Coordinator.

After a long COVID absence, the PSLARA has resumed in person meetings. The club’s March meeting was held at the IRSC Pruitt Campus Veteran’s Center and was very well attended by club members and visitors. Did you attend? If you didn’t, you missed a most interesting video entitled, “*The Last Voice from Kuwait.*”

The club’s April meeting will be April 27, 2022, 7:30pm at the Port St. Lucie Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd. The Community Center is located across the street from the Port St. Lucie city complex. The club is searching for a permanent in-person venue, but for now will alternate between the IRSC Pruitt Campus Veteran’s Center and the Port St. Lucie Community Center. Watch for future meeting details on the [PSLARA web site](#).

Whether a member or not, please come out to a meeting and support the PSLARA.

* * * * *

We recently reported the passing of long time PSLARA member and avid DXer Larry Cook, W4QH.

It is with great sadness that we now report the passing of Larry’s long time XYL and friend to many local hams, Patricia Cook.

The entire ham community sends their condolences to the Cook family.

73, [TC Ham News Publishers](#)



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service®

(ARES) is made up of licensed amateurs who volunteer with their county ARES group for communications duty when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be beneficial to participate fully in ARES.

Our ARES groups (Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee) have a primary goal of making sure there are ham communicators available to man county shelters in an emergency. These groups also have a secondary purpose to

help their neighboring ARES counties with backup deployment.

ARES members must keep their emergency communications knowledge and training current. Many of our ARES groups sponsor in-person training. With busy schedules, that may not be the most suitable approach. Another option is virtual training. Please contact your county ARES EC for in-person and virtual training opportunities

ARES RESOURCES

- [ARES Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Field Resources Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Fillable PDF\]](#)
- [Your local county ARES plan](#)

ARES Emergency Coordinators (EC)

[Indian River County](#)
[Bud Holman, WA4ASJ](#)

[Martin County](#)
[Steve Marshall, WW4RX](#)

[St Lucie County](#)
[Paul Horner, W4ISZ](#)

[Okeechobee County](#)
[John Schwartz, KM4CRA](#)

Get involved, volunteer, and be a part of your county ARES.

VE License Testing Update



If your club is testing, please let us know the location, date and examination results

\$35 FCC Processing Fee Effective April 19, 2022

We knew it was coming. Well now it is here. As of April 19, 2022 applicants will be required to pay a \$35 processing fee to the FCC for all applications for new licenses, upgrades and vanity call requests.

VEs will not be responsible for collecting this fee. Instead, after processing an application but before issuing the license or approving the upgrade or change, the FCC will send an electronic invoice to the applicant using the email address shown on the applicant's FCC Form 605.

The applicant will then have 10 days to pay the fee electronically following the instructions provided in the email.

Upon receipt of payment the FCC will finish processing the license, upgrade or vanity call sign request. A further email will then be sent to the applicant advising that the process is complete.

Other changes are in the works by the ARRL for the Volunteer Examiner system, including a reduction in the examination fee for youth candidates. Watch for further updates.

For more information about the new FCC fee and the youth program see the notice of the ARRL web site. [Click here.](#)

"On Demand" Testing Is Still In Play

If you are ready to upgrade your license, or know someone studying to take the Technician Class license exam, be sure to reach out to one of the Volunteer Examiners listed elsewhere on this page.

Most area clubs still do not have regular exam sessions scheduled, but are willing to arrange "on demand" sessions as needed. So there is no excuse to let the lack of scheduled exam sessions impact of your plans to upgrade your license or earn a new license.

Examination sessions are also offered at most Hamfests. Be sure to check out the list of upcoming Hamfests on page 6 of this newsletter. Further information on testing opportunities can be obtained by clicking on the links provided in the Hamfest listings.

Covid-19 Impacts Continue

Lingering impacts from the Covid-19 pandemic continue to thwart efforts to find venues willing to host our examination sessions.

Hopefully, conditions will continue to improve and sites will soon become available where clubs can resume regular testing schedules.

Watch future issues of *Treasure Coast Ham News* for further updates.

Local License Exam Contacts

Vero Beach ARC

Bud L. Holman
(772) 559-3342
budholman@earthlink.net

Ft. Pierce ARC

Jess Porter
w4dns@arrl.net

Port St. Lucie ARA

Robert Brown
(772) 201-5485
brownpsl@comcast.net

Send VE news to tchamnews@gmail.com.

Ham Radio History: A Patriotic and Dignified Effort

by Chris Codella, W2PA

[Editor's note: The author, Chris Codella, W2PA, maintains a web site full of interesting stories about the development and evolution of radio communication. This is the sixth in a series of articles about the earliest days of radio history. The stories are reprinted here with permission of the author. Be sure to visit [Ham Radio History](#) for some fascinating reading.]

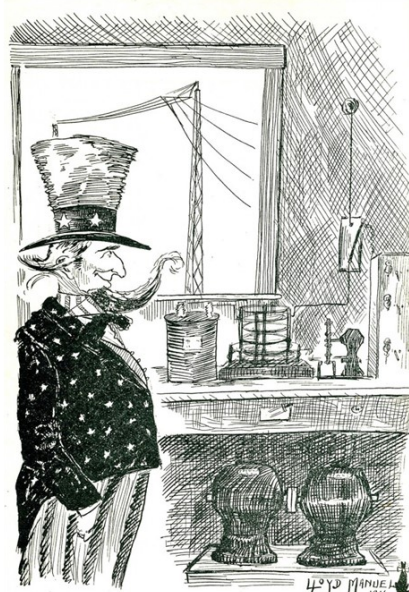
ARRL membership was free in 1915; QST would be a new and separate entity. With a mixture of enthusiastic optimism and a strong belief in the necessity to organize hams across the country, Maxim and Tuska were confident enough of the magazine's future to risk some of their own money (mostly Maxim's, one would think) to get it rolling. The state of the world and the country at this point made such optimism a little difficult to muster. In fact, their first issue's lead article noted the "serious national questions" pertaining to defense and predicted that radio would likely play an important, though not yet fully understood, role. They were right.

Signing as "Chairman," Maxim had written a letter that August to US Navy Secretary Josephus Daniels in which he described the ARRL and the amateurs' accomplishments in relaying messages and aiding in emergencies. Maxim offered their services to the government, believing they would be valuable assets, especially since most of the members' stations were situated along both coasts.⁽¹⁾ Writing with evident pride, he explained that although the League consisted of "middle-aged men, young men, and boys," there were many amateur stations that were more capable than commercial ones. He also enclosed a current *List of Stations*.

In reply, Daniels welcomed his "patriotic offer." He directed Maxim to correspond directly with the Superintendent of the Naval Radio Service, who was in charge of radio operations including how to use non-Navy facilities if necessary, and would be interested in as much detail as Maxim could supply. In particular, foreshadowing regulatory disputes yet to come, he expressed interest in "the method employed for the interior control of the amateur stations constituting the League." Daniels (whose assis-

tant secretary at the time was Franklin Delano Roosevelt) believed that the Navy needed new technology, so he had created the Naval Consulting Board, appointing Thomas Edison as its chairman.

Maxim had also written to the Secretary of War with a similar offer. A different kind of reply came back from Lt. Col. Samuel Reber, Acting Chief Signal Officer of the Signal Corps, formally known as the U.S. Army Aviation Section, U.S. Signal Corps. Reber thanked him for the letter and using very formal language said, in effect, we'll call you when and if we need you.



UNCLE SAM: "I RECKON MY AMATEURS LEAD THE WORLD."

From the beginning, hams had a sense that with their operations and organization they could - and should - contribute to the public good. Maxim summarized that "the organization of our League, in efficient working form is a work which is of national importance, and we may have the knowledge that it represents a patriotic and dignified effort."

□ □ □ □ □

Judging by the letters that appeared in the second issue in January, the first issue had been received enthusiastically by the League's members.⁽²⁾ Jacob Weiss wrote the first letter to QST, calling its premiere issue "a peach," and reported some on-air activity. Robert Campbell, Jr., also wrote in to say that

QST is "all to the mustard," which I suppose meant "good" since Mr. Campbell ordered a subscription and League "license." Other letters talked of stations "working" each other, so that particular term was already in use.

□ □ □ □ □

de W2PA

Footnotes:

- (1) "National Defence. Our Services Offered to Government," December Radio Relay Bulletin, QST, December 1915, 3-5.
- (2) Radio Communications by the Amateurs, QST, February 1916, 31-35.

(Next month: Humor, Poetry and Rotten Rants)

(Are you enjoying this series? Please let us know. Send your comments to tchamnews@gmail.com.)



Got My License, Now What? How High Should an Antenna Be?

This question is asked quite frequently. Actually what many want to know is just how low can I mount the antenna and still expect it to work?

There is much to learn about HF propagation. However, a few basics can help achieve good results.

On VHF and higher you can go by the rule, "the higher the better." This is a ground wave transmission. You can liken it to line of sight. If you were to raise yourself above ground, you would see a farther distance to the horizon. So will the ground wave. On VHF, this will increase the performance in distance. Actually on VHF in particular, it is somewhat forgiving and will bend with the terrain. This is a reason for using VHF for police and fire in rural areas. We are referring to distances of 10 to 15 miles car to car (depending on power) and as much as 100 miles through a repeater reasonably high above ground.

So what happens at the HF frequencies? A lot! HF is normally used for communicating over much longer distances than the VHF ground wave. Therefore, where do you start? And what factors affect it?

There is one thing to keep in mind. HF radiation rarely reflects. Due to the low frequency, there is insufficient inductance in objects to make it reflect. However, there are other factors that affect HF.

We can start with what you are walking on. The soil conditions of the earth vary by location. Conductivity and various minerals in the soil affect HF communications.

Depending on this chemistry will determine how much HF radiation will be absorbed and not leave the antenna site.

What do you look for?

If the antenna is very low to the ground, you can observe the performance. Tuning of the antenna is one factor. Is the antenna reacting in a peculiar manner? Is minimum SWR a bit too high? If measured, is the impedance of the antenna very low? Possibly receiving performance has deteriorated severely.

Another check is measuring SWR at low power as

compared to high power. If at low power the SWR is closer to normal and high power it increases a lot, then a nearby object is most likely having an affect. Like maybe the earth. Radiation can be absorbed, and due to a transformer effect radiate some RF back into the antenna, or possibly the feedline laying on it. This will increase the SWR and can make the antenna very narrow in bandwidth.

If this is the case, raising the antenna even a few feet will make a positive change toward normal functioning of your antenna.

We can usually use the same rule as VHF, "the higher the better." However, when you are limited in what you can do, you will want to know the minimum you can get away with. HF will start performing reasonably well if you can get sufficient height from your ground absorption factor. On average, 20 feet will do it. Some areas are more forgiving and some areas are worse. You will get indications of your antenna's performance by taking note of the readings mentioned.

73, Ralph, WD0EJA
BILAL COMPANY
137 MANCHESTER DR.
FLORISSANT, CO 80816, U.S.A
PH/FX: 719/687-0650
wd0eja@isotronantennas.com



Comm Academy is streaming on April 9th, 2022 starting at 12:00pm EST via their [YouTube channel](#). Each presentation will have a Q&A period. If you would like to participate interactively via YouTube chat, you will need to be logged in with your own YouTube account. **No registration is required.** Simply join the stream and enjoy the content.

Presentations include:

- Christian Helfrich, K7XTN: Deep Dive on FLDIGI
- Robert Satore, KJ7JXM: POTA (Parks on the Air) Lessons for EmComm
- Robert Grinnell, KD7WNV: Ham support for the Bigfoot 200 endurance race
- Quentin Caudron, K7DRQ: A novel method of optimizing Yagi antenna design
- Tom Cox, VE6TOX: "What's Your Priority?" The role of priorities in the ICS

Don't forget to check-in and share on social media:
[Twitter-Facebook-Instagram](#)

Upcoming Hamfests

FLORIDA

04/09/2022 - [TARCFest](#)

Location: Tampa, FL

Sponsor: Tampa Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.hamclub.org>

05/07/2022 - [EPARS Tailgate](#)

Location: Dade City , FL

Sponsor: East Pasco Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://eparsonline.org>

05/28/2022 - [WormFest](#)

Location: Pinellas Park, FL

Sponsor: The Glorious Society of The Wormhole

Website: <https://w4orm.org/>

08/13/2022 - [Ft. Pierce Hamfest](#)

Location: Ft Pierce, FL

Sponsor: Ft. Pierce Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://fparc.org/>

According to the Internet, a Hamfest is a gathering of people interested in Amateur Radio. Hamfests offer exhibits, forums and flea markets for Amateur Radio operators or "hams." What you can see at a Hamfest is a gathering of hams enjoying ham camaraderie. This is the intangible benefit of all Hamfests. We like to have the opportunity to gather and meet our friends from other parts of Florida and elsewhere.



TARCFest 04/09/2022

Location: Tampa Amateur Radio Club

7801 N 22nd St, Tampa, FL 33601

Website: <http://www.hamclub.org>

Talk-In: 147.105+ PL 146.2

Public Contact: Bill Bode , N4WEB

14302 Capitol Dr Tampa, FL 33613

Phone: 813-382-9262

Email: n4web@hamclub.org



SLC ARES Simplex Drill

On Saturday, April 30th, 2022 at 10am St. Lucie County ARES will conduct a Simplex Radio Drill to test communications between the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Midway Rd in Fort Pierce and the special needs and school shelters, hospitals or other designated sites. Peer-to-peer communication between primary sites will also be tested, if time allows.

Operating from shelters and hospital locations is an important

validation of ARES ability to conduct emergency simplex communications during times of emergency.

For the spring simplex radio drill, emergency communicators are expected to use dual band mobile radios. Use of five watt handheld radios will be discouraged because of their limited transmit range but may be considered if used with external 5/8 wavelength antennas.

If time allows Digital Radio Mobile (DMR) or D-Star radios will also be tested from selected locations.

Paul, W4ISZ, SLC Emergency Coordinator asks that **ALL** SLC ARES members participate in the

this important drill. If SLC ARES members can not participate onsite from one of the county's shelters, hospitals or other designated sites, they may be asked to function as relay operators or ARES communication observers recording signal reports of the sites and EOC.

Another purpose of the Simplex Radio Drill is to create awareness for the public, elected officials and emergency managers as to the importance of **ARES** and amateur radio as a backup communications tool during times of emergency.

Please email Paul SLC ARES EC at w4isz@outlook.com, for more information.

SLC ARES needs your support!

Welcome to the Treasure Coast Ham News Monthly Meeting, Nets, and Events Calendar

If you know of an event, net, or meeting and think it would be of interest to our Treasure Coast Hams, please let us know. As with anything new, you can help us make the calendar better. Send your event announcements to tchamnews@gmail.com.

April 2022

March							May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
3 TC R/T Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	4 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) IRC Emer. Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) MCARA R/T Net-8pm 145.500(-) (107.2) OARC Club Net-8pm 147.195(-) (100.0)	5 IRC ARES Net-7:30pm 145.130(-) (107.2) FPARC R/T Net-8pm 147.35(+)(107.2) D-Star Net-8:30pm 444.500(+5) Port B	6 SLC ARES Net-7:30pm 147.240(+)(107.2) or Winlink Checkin sent to W4ISZ	7 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) VBARC Mtg-7:30pm 4325 43rd Av Vero Bch	8	9	
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24 TC R/T Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	25 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) IRC Emer. Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) MCARA R/T Net-8pm 145.500(-) (107.2) OARC Club Net-8pm 147.195(-) (100.0)	26 IRC ARES Net-7:30pm 145.130(-) (107.2) FPARC R/T Net-8pm 147.35(+)(107.2) D-Star Net-8:30pm 444.500(+5) Port B	27 PSLARA Mtg-7:30pm Port St. Lucie Community Center 2195 SE Airoso Blvd Port St. Lucie, FL	28 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) MCARA Mtg-7pm 800 SE Monterey, Stuart	29	30	
1	2	TC: Treasure Coast IRC: Indian River County SLC: St. Lucie County PSLARA: Port St. Lucie Amateur Radio Association (www.pslara.org) FPARC: Ft. Pierce Amateur Radio Club (https://fparc.org/) MCARA: Martin County Amateur Radio Association (https://mcaraweb.com/) OARC: Okeechobee County Amateur Radio Club VBARC: Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club (http://www.w4ot.com/)				R/T: Ragchew/Traders Emer.: Emergency	

47th Annual Stuart Hamfest and ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention

The Martin County Amateur Radio Association's 47th Annual Stuart Hamfest was held at the Martin County Fairgrounds. The event was well attended by Treasure Coast and area hams.



Entrance, prize ticket buying and food area



Great inside swap table area with lots of bargains



Outdoor tailgate area. Good conversation & gear



Bob Heil's excellent Zoom presentation



The ARRL South Florida Section meeting



Fred's very interesting telephone presentation

For some fun try your hand at finding the words below



PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT WORD SEARCH

Find and circle these words in the word search

AERO COMMANDER
BOEING
GULFSTREAM
LIFTMASTER
SACRED COW
STRATOLINER

AIR FORCE ONE
COLUMBINE
INDEPENDENCE
LOCKHEED
SAM
SUPER CONNIE

BEECH
CONSTELLATION
JET STAR
NORTH AMERICAN
SIOUX

BELL
DOUGLAS
KING AIR
SABRELINER
SKYMASTER

A R E A C H G O R D O D S S N
 G E A R I A G N I K E A U A O
 U N I E P M X B E E C H P B R
 L I R T R A I S H R I S E R T
 F L F S L O T K E J N I R E H
 S O O A C E C D E O D O C L A
 T T R M J O C O A H Y U O I M
 R A C Y L O W X M N O X N N E
 E R E K W C O L U M B I N E R
 A T O S C A R D I V A D I R I
 M S N J E T S T A R R N E I C
 B O E I N G S A L G U O D B A
 A F I N D E P E N D E N C E N
 C O N S T E L L A T I O N L R
 X S A M R E T S A M T F I L L

(see page 10 for answers)



NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Are You WSPRing?

Last time we discussed setting up [WSJT-X](#) for weak signal propagation reporter (**WSPR**). Did you try **WSPR** using your station rig? While you can use your rig for **WSPR**ing, transmitting 24 hours a day or operating portable, it may be better to use a dedicated transmitter.

There are **WSPR** transmitter kits. Most soldering is limited to simple low pass (LP) filters. [TAPR](#) has a Raspberry Pi based kit for \$32. Surface mount (SMD) components are pre-soldered, but you will need to solder thru-hole inductors and capacitors. A Pi, SD card and Pi power supply is required. This is a very easy kit to get started.

[ZachTek](#) offers 3 WSPR transmitters: WSPR-TX Mini, WSPR LPI and WSPR Desktop. WSPR-TX Mini is a 20mW standalone WSPR transmitter with a built in GPS module and GPS antenna. Like the [TAPR](#) kit you must solder the LP filter. WSPR LPI is an experimental platform with an on board Arduino. Like the Mini it has a built in GPS module and GPS antenna. The power output is 200 to 300mW. Finally, the WSPR Desktop is not a kit. Rather it is a fully assembled, ready to go WSPR transmitter packaged in an aluminum case. It has four internally switched low pass filters and comes in three models that cover different portions of the HF band. The prices for the [ZachTek](#) WSPR transmitters are Mini-\$45; LPI-\$69; and Desktop-\$139. These WSPR transmitters sell out on a regular basis, so check their website for availability.

[QRPLabs](#) sells a full kit (SMDs pre-soldered), the Ultimate3S QRSS/WSPR Transmitter. In addition to **WSPR** mode, it can transmit QRSS, Hell, Opera, PI4 on any LF, MF, HF or VHF band. The kit includes a U3 PCB with LCD module and all components. A Si5351A or OCXO/Si5351 synthesizer module kit (Si5351A chip is pre-soldered) and included. The kit also has a low pass filter module kit for one band (choice of any band from 2200m to 222MHz)

If you have never tried a [QRPLabs](#) kit you are in for a treat. [QRPLabs](#) owner Hans Summers' assembly manuals are, in my estimation, better than the Heathkit manuals. His kits are easy to build. He requires no SMD soldering. The basic Ultimate3S transmitter can accommodate one LP filter board. If you want to have a more robust multi-band WSPR transmitter, he offers additional boards. The basic Ultimate3S QRSS/WSPR Transmitter price is \$36.

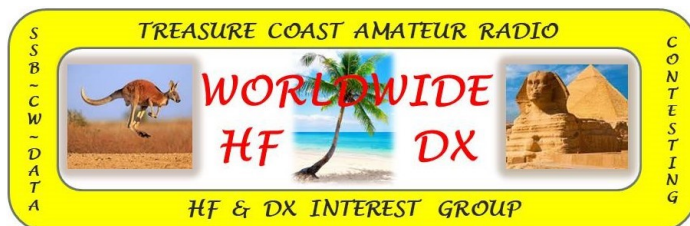
Next time we will finish with a simple Arduino **WSPR** transmitter that was featured recently in QST.

73, [TCHamNews](#)

PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT WORD SEARCH

Answer Key

A	R	E	A	C	H	G	O	R	D	O	D	S	S	N
G	E	A	R	I	A	G	N	I	K	E	A	U	A	O
U	N	I	E	P	M	X	B	E	E	C	H	P	B	R
L	I	R	T	R	A	I	S	H	R	I	S	E	R	T
F	L	F	S	L	O	T	K	E	J	N	I	R	E	H
S	O	O	A	C	E	C	D	E	O	D	O	C	L	A
T	T	R	M	J	O	C	O	A	H	Y	U	O	I	M
R	A	C	Y	L	O	W	X	M	N	O	X	N	N	E
E	R	E	K	W	C	O	L	U	M	B	I	N	E	R
A	T	O	S	C	A	R	D	I	V	A	D	I	R	I
M	S	N	J	E	T	S	T	A	R	R	N	E	I	C
B	O	E	I	N	G	S	A	L	G	U	O	D	B	A
A	F	I	N	D	E	P	E	N	D	E	N	C	E	N
C	O	N	S	T	E	L	L	A	T	I	O	N	L	R
X	S	A	M	R	E	T	S	A	M	T	F	I	L	L



Please don't forget, a group of local hams are considering the construction of a world-class remote HF station that you can operate from the comfort of your own easy chair. The group created a web survey to help gauge local ham interest in their plan. If you've not already done so, be sure to take the [Remote Operating Survey](#).

How do you like the new logo proposed for the 2x4 DX Group? We think if more closely fits the group's diverse interests. What do you think? Share your opinion in an email to [HF & DX Group](#).

In an effort to restart meetings, a few members of the former 2x4 DX Group are considering an informal get together over breakfast at a local restaurant. Interested in joining us? Watch your email. More information will be coming soon.

Send an email to us at tchamnews@gmail.com.

The Frugal Ham Radio Operator

Over the last 6 months our ARES group has been getting members acquainted with [Winlink Express](#) and [VARA FM](#). For old-timers that grew up building MITS Altairs, RCA Cosmac Elfs, ZX-81s and using IBM Personal PCs, the application is very reminiscent of a simpler world before the idiocracy of Windows, iPads and smart phones.

For those of you that have not used [Winlink Express](#), the application is very structured and forms based. It reminds me of an MS-DOS application from the pre-Windows / Apple GUI era. The interface is not natively intuitive. You must know the process to create, send and receive messages and forms. Unless you use the application regularly, a cheat sheet is warranted. Setup is relatively easy. The application has the capability to personalize to suit yours and your ARES group tastes. One thing I don't like is the constant program and forms updating. Sometimes daily. It quickly gets old, but it is what it is. [Winlink Express](#) is essentially free, but a registration fee is encouraged and goes toward support of the application.

EA5HVK's [VARA FM](#) is really a suite of applications including FM, HF, SAT, Chat and Terminal. Like [Winlink Express](#) you can install and use [VARA FM](#) in a demonstration (i.e. Free) or limited functionality mode (clipped speed and no digipeaters), or pay \$70 and use it unrestricted. For those who have that "need for speed" and want no restrictions using [VARA FM](#), the cost is probably worth it and guarantees continual updates and enhancements as the developer evolves the application.

[Winlink Express](#) and [VARA FM](#) will need a digital mode interface or TNC. If you have one of those Swiss Army Knife VHF/UHF handheld radios that Kenwood, ICOM, and Yaesu sell, you may be all set. I have witnessed local hams using those radios successfully, but in reading VARA application FAQs some say operating is best when using a radio that is designed to work with an "external" TNC. That's music to my frugalist ears. My Yaesu FT-7900R and FT-857D radios will work, but will my Coastal Chipworks TNC-X?

The TNC-X is very simple to interface. It uses KISS protocol. Mine is old and is pre-DIN connector version. I built an interface cable for the FT-7900R. Coastal Chipworks is no longer producing the TNC-X. And with its 1200 baud speed maximum, it may not work with the faster VARA speeds. I didn't really want to buy another piece of special purpose equipment, but started searching anyway for a replacement. Luckily, we have [Masters Communications](#) in Palm Bay that sells a nice TNC/digital interface for most radios using an appropriate interface cable. For \$100 (assembled, or less as a kit), a new state of art interface can be yours. *Take it home today!*

Another option to consider is a [Signalink USB](#). Many hams - you may be one of them - use this interface for WSJT-X. The Signalink USB version must have the black SMT transformers. If your Signalink USB is 2 or 3 years old, you should be fine, but crack open the case and check to be sure. Please let us know your success with Signalink USB or another TNC. *73, [The Frugal Ham](#)*

Short Takes

The ABCs of Echolink
<https://www.amateur-radio-wiki.net/echolink/>

CubeSat Developers Conference Videos
[CubeSat - YouTube](#)

All about Cobwebb Antennas: <https://www.kerryamateurradiogroup.com/resources/Cobwebb%20Design.pdf> and <https://www.g7syw.com/>

homebrew-cobwebb-antenna/.

Also <https://w6aer.com/cobweb/>

Selecting a heatsink
[Choosing A Heatsink | Nuts & Volts Magazine](#)

Nuts & Volts magazine - the go-to place for electronics enthusiasts, builders and restorers:
www.nutsvolts.com.

Public Safety monitoring and scanner enthusiasts - Here's a one-stop preference site sharing everything you need to know to enjoy your hobby: [Radio Scanner Guide](#)

Scanner frequency reference database:
www.radioreference.com

Live public safety broadcasts from around the country:
www.broadcastify.com.

Email & Chat Groups

A group dedicated to the Anytone AT-5888UV and model III transceiver: [Anytone AT-5888UV](#)

Here's an interest group for FT8 Digital Mode:
[FT8 Digital Mode Group](#)

See an interesting web site or Group? Tell us about it. Send link to tchamnews@gmail.com

Treasure Coast Ham Doctors



WSJT-X Startup Error

A local ham friend asked a couple questions concerning difficulties associated with using WSJT-X to operate FT8. We'll discuss one of them this month and another one next month.

Question:

Every time I start WSJT-X I receive an error message indicating a failure to open the file **wsjt_log.adi**. After I clear the error, the program finishes booting and appears to operate normally. I am using WSJT-X version 2.1.4. How do I fix this error?

Answer:

There is a bug in some versions of WSJT-X that causes it to write an incorrect header in the file **wsjt_log.adi**. As a result, the program is unable to initialize the file on startup.

The app will complete the startup process and appear to operate normally when you clear the error message, but your QSOs will not log in WSJT's local log file.

Fortunately, the error is easy to fix by following these simple instructions:

1. Boot WSJT and clear the **wsjt_log.adi** error to get to the main operating screen.
2. From the top menu select **File - Open log directory**. A

window will open displaying a list of file names.

3. Look for either the icon or file named **wsjt_log**. Depending on your Windows configuration the file may or may not carry the extension **“.adi”** after the name.

Note: We are interested in the file named **wsjt_log** - NOT the file named **wsjt.log**.

4. Right-click on the filename or icon labelled **wsjt_log** (with or without the **.adi** extension) and choose **Open with ->** and select **Notepad** to edit the file.

Note: You may need to search for **Notepad** from a list of programs on your computer.

5. **Notepad** will open the file and display the first lines of data within it. The first line of the file is the header. It should look similar to this:

WSJT-X ADIF Export<eh>

6. Position your cursor between the **“e”** and **“h”** near the end of the header line. Then insert (type) a lower case letter **“o”** between the **“e”** and **“h”** so that the line reads:

WSJT-X ADIF Export<eoh>

7. Select **File - Save** to save the change and close **Notepad**.
8. Close the WSJT-X file list by clicking on the **“X”** in the top right corner of the Window.
9. Close and restart WSJT-X. It should now restart without the error.

73, [The Doctors](#)

FT8 / WSJT-X Operating Tip - Color Anxiety

Too Many Colors Cause Confusion

Newcomers to WSJT-X often report confusion caused by the many colors in which CQ calls are displayed in the receive (left) window of the main WSJT-X screen.

If you are struggling to understand the meaning and significance of the colors, don't despair. Here is an easy solution that will simplify your learning experience.

From the main WSJT-X screen, go to **File - Settings - Colors**. Then click on **“Reset Highlighting.”** Now remove the checkmarks from all lines except the following:

- My Call in message
- New DXCC and New DXCC on Band

New Grid and New Grid on Band
New Call and New Call on Band
CQ in message
Transmitted message

Click on **“OK”** to close the screen.

Now when operating, chase the violet tinted CQs. They represent new countries / DXCC entities. If you do not see any violet CQs, then go after CQs tinted in brown. They represent new areas of countries already in your log.

Should you not see violet or brown CQs, chase the blue ones. They are new calls not in your log in the current band. Send questions or tips to tchamnews@gmail.com.



Ramblings of an Antenna Alchemist

Hamstick vertical mobile antennas are a fundamental part of many ham's home and mobile antenna arsenal. WD4BUM was the creator, but many companies have cloned and produced the antenna, some well and many no so well.

My antenna alchemy has included Hamstick antennas since the '80s when I lived in an Wellington HOA community. They made it clear that even a disguised flagpole antenna would be considered declaring war on the HOA.

Hamstick antennas have a fiberglass lower base. For 20/17/15m wire is wound on the base with a majority of the wire as a coil towards the top. A piece of heat shrink tubing covers the base to protect the wire. Inserted above the base is a stainless whip that helps resonant the antenna. You have to be careful to not insert the whip too far into the base where it might interact with the wire coil. Some Hamsticks include a chart for whip lengths for each portion of the band. I found using

an antenna analyzer or VNA to be a better method for determining the whip's length.

For 30m and below the wire is very long. The base is tightly wound with wire for almost the entire length. The antenna seems not very efficient as a vertical radiator for the lower bands, more like a dummy load.

Through experimentation, hams found many ways to use Hamsticks as other than a mobile antenna. A common configuration is as a dipole. MFJ and others make a nice mount. I built a dipole mount using a PVC "T" connector. It works well. Google the Internet for all the variations. You will be amazed at the creativity of hams.

One of my favorite uses of a Hamstick is as a ground mounted vertical. A PVC "T" connector makes a good base. The upper section has a 3/8" mount to accept the Hamstick. The middle has a coax connector or with a wing nut for ground radials and the bottom has provisions for a pole for ground mounting.

73, [The Antenna Alchemist](#)



Amateur Radio Satellite Insights... from *Amateur Radio in Space (AMSAT)*

Two upgraded Astro Pi units arrived on the International Space Station. Each unit has the latest model of the Raspberry Pi computer, a Pi High Quality Camera and a host of sensors on a custom Sense HAT, all housed inside a special flight case designed to keep everything cool and protected. You can read the story of how the Astro Pi units were built at <https://tinyurl.com/ANS-079-raspberry-pi>. [ARS thanks Raspberry-Pi.org for the above information.]

NASA rolled the Space Launch System, a heavy-duty rocket designed to send astronauts to the moon, from the Kennedy Space Center Vehicle Assembly Building. A crawler-transporter used for the Apollo program hauled the rocket to its launch pad for a countdown dress rehearsal. The dress rehearsal is set for early April. The launch team will load super-cold liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen propellants into the rocket's core stage and upper stage, made by United Launch Alliance. Read more about the preparations for the Artemis-I mission at <https://tinyurl.com/ANS-079-artemis>. [ARS thanks Spaceflightnow.com for the above information.]

Oregon's first satellite, known as OreSat0, launched into low Earth orbit on March 15 aboard Astra's "LV0009" rocket from Kodiak, Alaska. OreSat0 was designed/built by the Portland State Aerospace Society (PSAS), an interdisciplinary student group at Portland State University. The first in a series of three satellites, it carries an Amateur Radio communications system. PSAS has close to 200 data packets from the satellite and is working better than anticipated. Experiments will begin shortly allowing PSAS to test their sensors and systems over the next few years until OreSat0 makes its journey home. In the meantime, PSAS is already building its' next satellite, OreSat0.5, which is equipped with a better camera to guide its journey later this summer. More information at <https://www.pdx.edu/news/oregons-first-satellite-launched-orbit>. [ANS thanks Portland State University for the above information.]

UTILITY STATION MONITORING

What is utility station monitoring? Typically, it is monitoring government, military, aeronautical, satellite, and maritime stations communications. Modes can be voice, CW, RTTY, computer digital, image, telemetry, passive sound, and even laser. The list of modes grows as communication technologies evolve.

In early days, magazines such as *Electronics Illustrated* and *Popular Communications* had columns for utility monitoring. Out of those publications came magazines dedicated to utility station monitoring, such as *Popular Communications* and *Monitoring Times*. Unfortunately, with the advent of the Internet those publications faded. The only utility monitoring publication remaining is [The Spectrum Monitor](#) magazine. *Spectrum Monitor* includes excellent articles and publishes logs submitted by its readers. There are several forums for utility station monitoring. [Utility Listening Forum](#) has a multitude of information to help you get started. Another source of information is the [Utility DXer's Forum](#) web page.

Many hams probably got their start monitoring utility stations by first listening to shortwave broadcasts. While shortwave is not considered utility monitoring, it was a pathway for using their radio receivers to find LF, HF, VHF and UHF frequencies, intercept stations and listen to voice and decode CW and RTTY. (*Remember our numbers stations?*)

With the advent of sound card interfaces, robust software, and radios that can receive almost any frequency from LF to SHF, hams have the ability to intercept and potentially decode many utility station transmissions. While encryption is becoming more prevalent, so is the radio hacker's ability to use low cost software defined radio (SDR) dongles to receive and decrypt communications. [RTL-SDR](#) has excellent resources available to learn and experiment.

Military Radio Traffic (and more)

The conflict between Ukraine and Russia has resulted in some unexpected opportunities for SDR and scanner enthusiasts. Military communications across all bands has increased dramatically. It seems like more assets than normal are airborne, resulting in increased opportunities to monitor military traffic.

HF Monitoring - Up and down the east coast active HF frequencies include the following. You will want to have them programmed into your scanner. All frequencies are in megahertz (MHz) and all operate in upper sideband mode.

4.724 8.992 10.3325 11.175 14.484

VHF/UHF Monitoring - VHF and UHF military frequencies have also been more active than usual. Frequencies heard up and down the east coast recently include (in MHz):

139.700 237.150 11.000 271.000 364.200

Also be sure to include 243.000, the military's emergency frequency, in your scan list.

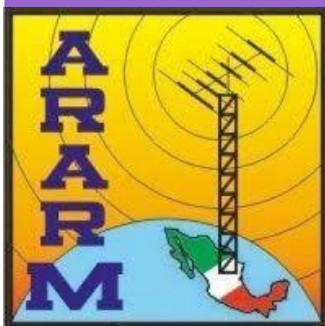
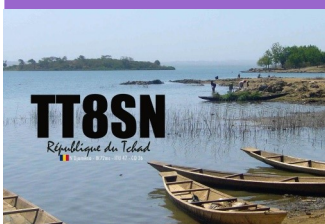
Pirates on Satellite Transponders – The Ukraine / Russia conflict has resulted in an uptick of traffic on some old abandoned communication satellites. It seems pirates are hijacking transponder frequencies and broadcasting CW messages in support of Ukraine. Frequencies reported recently include:

260.375 255.550 252.050

Some of the CW messages copied by satellite enthusiasts recently include:

**Save Ukraine
Enemies will fade away
Peace in Ukraine**

Serious satellite enthusiasts suggest the best way to spot traffic is to monitor 240 to 270 MHz using an SDR. You will need lots of patience. Traffic is infrequent, and when it does pop up it is usually of short duration, so be ready to react quickly.



From the weekly *ARRL DX Bulletin* and other sources. [\(DX bulletin archive\)](#)

DX OPPORTUNITIES

ANTARCTICA. Sergiy, UT9UX is QRV as EM1U from Base Vernadsky on Galindez Island in the Biscoe Islands, IOTA AN-006, until mid-April. Activity is on various HF bands. QSL via UT7UA.

VIET NAM, XV. Thomas, DL7BO is now QRV as XV9K. Activity is mainly on 20 and 10 meters using FT8 and FT4 at various times. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via DJ6TF.

SABA, ST. EUSTATIUS, PJ5. Operators Janusz, SP9FIH; Roman, SP9FOW; and Dariusz, SP9MQA are QRV as PJ5/home calls from Sint Eustatius, IOTA NA-145, until April 7. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via Club Log.

SOUTH SUDAN, Z8. Diya, Y11DZ is QRV as Z81D from Juba until September 11. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands. QSL via OM3JW.

CHAD, TT. Nicolas, TT8SN is QRV from time to time on 10 and 6 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being active on Satellite QO-100. QSL via DL9USA.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Erwann, LBIQI is QRV as FK/LBIQI from Noumea. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

KENYA, 5Z. Andy, 5Z4VJ has been active using FT8 on 10 meters around 2030z. QSL to home call.

NORTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Warwick, E51WL has been active using FT8 on 12 meters just before 2200z. QSL to home call.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Amir, 4X6TT is QRV as S79/4X6TT from Mahe Island, IOTA AF-024. Activity is on the HF bands, with particular interest given to 30, 17, and 12 meters. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via N4GNR.

CYPRUS, 5B. Philipp, DK6SP is QRV as 5B4AQC from Nicosia until July 27. Activity is mostly holiday style on various HF bands using CW. QSL to home call.

FERNANDO DE NORONHA, PY0F. Everton, PU2MEA is QRV as PY0F/PU2MEA until November 26. Activity is on 10 meters using SSB and QRP power in his spare time. QSL via LoTW.

ZAMBIA, 9J. Mario, IK1MYT is QRV as 9J2MYT from Lusaka until June 2022. Activity is on 40, 20, 17, 15, and 10 meters. QSL direct to IZ3KVD.

DX SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

MEXICO, XE. Special call signs 6D1A, 6D2A and 6D3A are QRV until April 15 to celebrate the 62nd anniversary of the Asociacion de Radio Aficionados de la Republica Mexicana. QSL via LoTW.

NETHERLANDS, PA. On April 1st from 0700 to 1900Z the following Royal Netherlands Army stations will be QRV on 80, 60, 40, 20 and higher bands on SSB: PA01MIL, PA02MIL, PA03MIL, PA04MIL, PA05MIL, PA06MIL; PA07MIL and PA08MIL. They will be using military gear “manpacked” or with MB290GD.

ALERT - CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, TL. The TL8AA/TL8ZZ Italian DX Team trip scheduled for March 27 to April 9 has been cancelled due to a meningitis outbreak in the Central African Republic.

PIRATE ALERT - SYRIA, YK. It is reported that someone was pirating the call YK7R on March 23 using CW on several bands. There has been no legitimate amateur activity from Syria since 2011.

(Know of an upcoming DX station or Special Event? Send info to: tchamnews@gmail.com)



Special Event Stations

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY AWARD



World Amateur Radio Day APRIL 18-19, 2022

1700Z-0030Z, W0W, Las Vegas, NV. *World* EchoLink Conf. VoIP. Certificate: Thomas Harrington, 636 West 24th Street, Ogden, UT 84401. W0W on www.qrz.com for QSL card/information.

Echolink System: Echolink Conference *World* #479886 IRLP 9251 or AI-starlink via WV8CW #43609 www.wrn-wfn.com

1500Z-0030Z, W7W, Ogden, UT. Narrivoip.com. 28.400, 14.074, 7.074, 3.920. QSL: Thomas, Harrington, 636 W 24th street, Ogden, UT 84401. HF voice and FT-8.

1300Z-0500Z, W2W, Rochester, NY. ROC-HAM/EchoLiink 531091; ALLSTAR 2585, 47620, 47918; other EchoLinks will be connected. QSL: John Derycke, W2JLD, 85 Amherst St. Apt. 2, Rochester, NY 14607.

1400Z-2000Z, W2NPT, 14.250, 7.250, 14.035, 7.035. QSL: FairLawn ARC, 10-10 20th St, FairLawn, NJ 07410. FairLawnARC.org

Autism Awareness Month

Apr 1-Apr 15, 0000Z-2359Z, WA3MD. 3.573, 7.074, 14.074, 21.074. QSL: Frank Mathias, 1849 Choptank Rd, Pasadena, MD 21122.

Sun-N-Fun Aerospace Expo

Apr 5-Apr 10, 0800Z-1700Z, W4S, Lakeland Amateur Radio Club (LARC). 2, 20, & 40 meters; other bands/modes possible. QSL: LARC, P.O. Box 90853, Lakeland, FL 33804. www.lakelandarc.org

Spaceport America Open House N.M.

Apr 10, 1700Z-2100Z, NM5HD, Rio Rancho. High Desert Amateur Radio Club of New Mexico Inc. 14.235, 14.265, 7.185, 146.460. Certificate: David Ham, 5052 Mira Vista Dr NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144. nm5hd.org

Loretta Lynn 90th Birthday

Apr 14, 0000Z-2359Z, K4L, Paintsville, KY Amateur Radio Community Service. 7.235. QSL: Amateur Radio Community Service K4L Special Event., P.O. Box 75, Paintsville, KY 41240. Honoring Ms. Lynn from her birthplace/childhood home in Butcher Holler at Van Lear, Kentucky. Ms. Lynn is noted for her famous song "Coal Miner's Daughter." Will be on other HF bands LSB, USB, CW, & digital modes. Info: n4kju@yahoo.com.

Maritime Radio Day 2022

Apr 14-Apr 15, 1200Z-2200Z. CW only: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meters, plus WARC. Certificate & QSL: see website for information. Various call signs will be used from worldwide locations. See website for rules. maritimeradio.pro/maritimeradioday

80th Anniversary Doolittle Raid

Apr 18, 1400Z-2359Z, NAIKW, Doolittle, MO. North American Kilowatt Club. 7.178, 14.228; 20 and 40 meters SSB. Certificate & QSL: Charles Doolittle - N1SPX, 2600 Davis St., Hannibal, MO 63401. <https://www.nalkw.com> (Other stations on the air: **N4D, NE1PL**)

160th Anniversary Great Locomotive Chase

Apr 16, 1400Z-1800Z, W4ABZ. Ringgold

Amateur Radio Club. 7.265, 14.265. QSL: Jim Skeen, 224 Smith Liner Rd., Chickamauga, GA 30707. Send SASE for QSL card.

Whiskey 4 Moonshine

Apr 16-Apr 30, 0000Z-2359Z, W4M, AA4SS. 7.215, 14.250, 18.135, 50.125. QSL: Timothy Boyd, AA4SS, 2201 Green Level Rd, Boones Mill, VA 24065. W4M ("Whiskey 4 MOONSHINE") operating April 15 — April 30 2022 on all HF bands (depending upon volunteers/equipment) phone, digital, & CW modes. <https://whiskey4moonshine.wordpress.com>

58th Annual West Point Scout Camporee

Apr 22-Apr 25, 0000Z-2359Z, W2P, Ten Mile River Scout Museum ARC. 18.158, 14.258, 7.258, 3.858. QSL: James Gallo, 149 Marine Avenue, 6F, Brooklyn, NY 11209.

50th Anniversary of Apollo 16

Apr 23-Apr 27, 1400Z-2359Z, W5RRR, NN4SA, +. NASA On the Air (NOTA). 14.045, 14.271. QSL: see QRZ. NASA On The Air (NOTA) back for 2022. Operating from various NASA centers. For more info, updates, tracking and scoring visit nasaontheair.wordpress.com. Individual clubs QSL info on their QRZ.com pages.

Handiham 55th Anniversary

Apr 29-May 1, 1900Z-1900Z, W0ZSW, Handiham Radio Club. 14,265, 7,040. QSL: Handiham Program, 3915 Golden Valley Road, Mail Route 78446, Minneapolis, MN 55422. Helping people with disabilities get involved in the amateur radio hobby. Listen out for CQ Handiham 55 on phone and CW! handiham.net

UGA Sanford Stadium

Apr 30-May 1, 1700Z-1700Z, N1D. Athens Radio Club. 3.930 MHz, 7.230, 14.330, 28.430 MHz. QSL. Athens Radio Club, P.O. Box 782, Athens, GA 30603-0782. Hosting a special event station from Sanford Stadium April 30 - May 1, 2022 from 1700 - 1700. If you're a Bulldog fan, or not, give us a call! athensradioclub.org

Ham Humor

(This month's cartoons are courtesy of [Dick Sylvan, W9CBT](#). Thanks, Dick, for allowing us to share them!)

HAM LINGO "Hot Radio Conditions"



"One Thing I Can Promise You Here Are Radio Conditions That Are Really Hot! "

About Dick Sylvan, W9CBT: Dick was first licensed 74 years ago. Besides being an experienced ham radio operator Dick is also a skilled artist, having drawn over 200 Amateur Radio related cartoons. In 2005 Dick published a collection of some of his earliest cartoons in the book, "*Hi Hi - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons.*" Dick's book can be purchased from Lulu.com. [Click here for a link to Dick's book.](#)

HAM QUIPS "SQUIRLING IT AWAY"



"I DONT KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT IT'S GREAT FOR STORING ALL THE DONUTS, BAGELS AND APPLES I FIND."



TREASURE COAST HAM NEWS

The editors like to reserve the last few pages of *Treasure Coast Ham News* for you, the readers. With your help these pages will include:

For Sale Section – Have something to sell or trade? Send us a description and/or picture to have it listed in this section. Looking to buy something? Provide a description and we will print it.

QSL Card Section – Many hams enjoy viewing QSL cards, especially those with colorful pictures. Send us scans of your favorite QSL cards. Maybe the first card you ever received. Or perhaps your favorite card, or your personal card. We will include some in each issue as space permits.

The last few newsletter pages are yours. Help make them a success by submitting your photos, For Sale listings and QSL cards to tchamnews@gmail.com.

Want to be published? Treasure Coast Ham News invites you to write about your ham radio activities, kit building, DX operations, or any other amateur radio subject. You don't need to be a polished writer, or a writer at all for that matter. We will help you edit your work. While we don't pay for articles, you will receive a full byline. Please contact us at: tchamnews@gmail.com.

Area Club News

[Martin County Amateur Radio Association](#)

MCARA serves the Martin County, FL amateur radio community and ARES. MCARA holds weekly Rag Chew nets, ARES nets and in-person/ZOOM meetings. Please click the ZOOM link on their [web site](#). The association sponsors the March Stuart Hamfest. Did you attend this year at the Martin Co. Fairgrounds? Check out the pictures on [page 8](#) in this newsletter.

[Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club](#)

The club officers are: President - David, KG4ORQ, Vice-President - Kevin, W4KKW, Secretary - Pete, KD4SPW, and Treasurer - Kurt, W4KFH.

FPARC is a general purpose amateur radio club with a digital emphasis. The club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month on the Main Campus of Indian River State College in Fort Pierce. Watch for email announcements concerning upcoming meetings and events. Additional details are available on the club's [web site](#).

[Port St. Lucie Amateur Radio Association](#)

The club officers are: President - Ken, WA4ABR; Vice President - Scott, AI4TT; Secretary - Bruce, WA3RHW; Treasurer - Bob, W4RJP.

Special Event - the club will participate in Florida State Parks on the Air, Saturday, April 2, 2022 at Savannas Preserve State Park on Walton Road. Email info@pslara.org for more info.

April Meeting - In-person at 7:30 PM, April 27, 2022 at the PSL Community Center, 2195 SE Airosa Blvd.

[Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club](#)

VBARC was formed in November, 1961 with a small number of local hams. The club has over 100 members and encompasses all of Indian River County. Please visit their [web site](#) to learn more about the club. Join them on the Treasure Coast Net, 7.153Mhz every morning at 8:00am.

[Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club](#)

The club officers are: President/Treasurer - Mark, KF4EA; Vice President - John, KM4CRA; Secretary - Josh, K4JHI.

The Okeechobee Amateur Radio is a general purpose amateur radio club. The club has been in existence over 30 years. For more information please contact [John, KM4CRA](#). Club website: www.k4oke.com

OARC nets include: Club - Monday nights at 8.00pm on 147.195, pl.100.0. ARES - Second Tuesday of each month at 8.00pm on 147.195, pl 100.0.

[Repeaters and Club Nets](#)

Our area has a multitude of repeaters. Clubs hold weekly rag chew nets. Any known net schedules can be found on the TCHM calendar in this newsletter. Please get on the air and participate!

(Attention club officers: Please send an email announcing upcoming events and activities to: tchamnews@gmail.com. Send by the 20th of the month to be included in the next issue.)

HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT FOR SALE & HELP NEEDED

BY ORIGINAL OWNER - Create Extra Heavy Duty Antenna Rotator – Model RC5A-3 and preset control box. Includes mounting hardware and factory manual. Rated for antenna up to 20 sq. ft. Test/Demo cable included. See [EHAM.NET](#) Reviews for info. \$495.00 or Best Offer.

ORIGINAL NON-SMOKING OWNER - YAESU FT1000 HF XCVR 160-10M. 200 WATTS with factory options (DVS-2 voice keyer, MHI-B8 hand microphone) and service manual. Has factory shipping box. \$795.00 or Best Offer. [Yaesu FT-1000 Specifications & Manual](#). For both items contact BOB, W7MAE, (772) 444-5845, or email w7mae@aol.com



[HELP NEEDED](#)

ANTENNA LAUNCHER - Bruce, WA3RHW, is looking to buy or borrow an antenna launcher - PVC type, not slingshot. AKA spud-chucker and potato launcher, among others. Please contact Bruce at btcarroll@comcast.net.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED - Looking for help in installing a discrete screwdriver vertical in my backyard with underground coax at residence. Contact Gus, NU4L, (772) 263-0430 or email gberges@me.com. Please advise if there is any cost and payment method. Thank you very much. Gus, NU4L

TCHamNews enjoys publishing QSL cards received by our local amateur radio community. If you have an interesting QSL card to share with your fellow hams, please send a scanned image (jpeg) to TCHamNews@gmail.com and we will include it in an upcoming issue. (If you send us a paper card, we will scan it and send the original back to you.)

AZERBAIJAN

473D7

e-mail: ALEXANDER@FROLOV.TV

TO: W4RJP

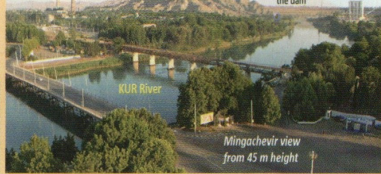


Date		UTC	
3 JUNE 2021		22-09	

MHz	RST	MODE	QSL
18	-11	FT8	PSE / TNX
			PSE / TNX
			PSE / TNX

I wish you STRONG health and good luck

Radio : Yaesu FT-920
 ANT: 3 el Hy-Gain TH3-MK4 for 20,15,10 m
 Inverted V for 80, 40,30,17,12 m


73! Alex
 4J3DU design
 UX5UO print

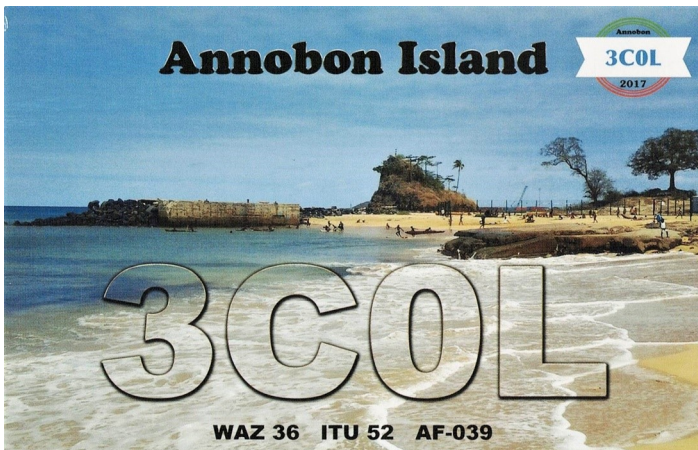




Annobon Island

3COL

WAZ 36 ITU 52 AF-039





Equatorial Guinea Bioko Island

3C1L

WAZ 36 ITU 47 AF-010





(above two cards courtesy of Bruce, WA3RCW)



The Republic of Suriname

PZ5RA

CQ Zone 9 • ITU Zone 12 • Loc. CJ25jt







RAØLQ/MM

Dmitry Slezko
 4-16, Pos'yetskaya
 Vladivostok, 690090
 RUSSIA
 Loc:PN73 ITU:34 CQ:19
 ex: RWOLIS

To: AI4RB This confirms our 2-way FT8 QSO
 Date: October 22, 2021 Time: 22:22 UTC
 Band: 20M UR Sigs: -23
 EJ16



If you are considering QSL cards or need to refresh your old card, please discuss with Fabrice at [QSL Concept](mailto:info@qslconcept.com). Email: info@qslconcept.com, or Fabrice directly at fabertron@bftechnicarts.com. Phone 604-729-6454.

info@qslconcept.com, or Fabrice directly at fabertron@bftechnicarts.com. Phone 604-729-6454.

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