

# Treasure Coast Ham News

SEPTEMBER 2022

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 7

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## PSLARA PRESIDENT KEN LENZ, WA4ABR (SK)



Ken Lenz, WA4ABR (SK) PSLARA President passed away unexpectedly on June 8th, 2022 after a short illness.

Ken was born in Queens, New York. His uncle, W5AVO/W5TA (SK) owned a 2 way radio/electronics company. He encouraged Ken to get a ham license. In 1963 Ken passed his Novice test and was given WN2HXF. After his move to Florida, Ken received WA4ABR. At the time of his passing Ken was an Extra class. He was an avid DXer.

Ken joined the ARRL in 1965 and became a Life Member in 1975. He strongly believed in the ARRL for protecting and promoting Amateur Radio in the US.

Ken was an active member of St. Lucie County ARES and participated in many of their events. Through his guidance, the PSLARA was regaining it's purpose after COVID.

*Rest In Peace WA4ABR*

## ATTENTION

Treasure Coast Ham News is retooling the newsletter. Please bear with us over the coming months as changes are made.

## From the Publishers

**Well, summer certainly went fast!** Vacations (or staycations) are mostly over. School's back in session. No hurricanes so far, but that Saharan dust and heat has got go. Bring on cooler weather. How was your summer? Good we hope for both you and your family.

\* \* \* \*

Of late I've been thinking about my ham radio path. Early on it was filled with wonder, but lots of starts and stops as well. College, military service, more college, family, career, etc. Intentions were always good; follow through not so much. Maybe your path was much the same.

In the summer of 1968 I received my Novice license. In those days Novices were given a year to upgrade. Theory did not come easy for me. My grandfather had been a scientist at Bell Labs, but I never knew him. He passed away before I was born. My dad could do anything creative or mechanical, but electronics was not his thing. I was mostly on my own. Luckily, the school library helped.

My high school had an amateur radio club. Some days I would watch ham class mates using the school's station to make QSOs. It was mesmerizing. Finally, I got up enough courage to ask them how to get licensed. They explained the process and patiently answered all my questions. My senior math teacher was a ham. He gave me the Novice exam. I passed the code test and hoped for the best on theory. Yes, you had to know theory in those days. Test questions were not published. A few weeks later a large manila envelope arrived from Gettysburg, PA. The return address said FCC. Good news, I passed.

During my second year of college I learned my draft lottery number might be called. I made a decision to join the US Navy. After boot camp I received orders to Communications Technician school at Corry Field in Pensacola. A large portion of the training was learning Morse Code. I could take code by hand, but the Navy said we would use a mill (typewriter) and set about teaching code that way. The second half of the school was classified. As we sat at our desks on the first day I looked down at my mill. No letters, numbers or punctuation on the keys. All the keys were all blank. Everyone was confused. From now on, they told us, what was on the keys was not important, only where we put our fingers. We practiced taking code many hours every day. To graduate from the school we would need to copy 20 plus groups a minute. Oh boy.

Ham radio took a back seat in the military. However, nearing the end of active service, ham radio again came to mind. This time I wanted ham radio to be more than just operating, and made a personal commitment to learn all I could, and continue to do so to this day. Electronics and radio communications might be your vocation or your hobby, but one thing is certain, you never stop learning.

\* \* \* \*

Ham radio is trans-generational. It is probably one of the few hobbies where it is possible for older and younger hams to share meaningful conversations about radios, electronics, technology and the like.

Older hams can be rev locked in their knowledge and operating practices. Younger hams are typically more flexible to learning and accepting change. Both can benefit if they are willing to acknowledge each other and work together.

73, [TC Ham News Publishers](#)



### [Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES\)](#)

ARES members are licensed amateurs who volunteer with their local emergency management for communications duty when disaster strikes. All licensed amateurs are eligible for membership in ARES.

*(From the ARRL ARES newsletter.)* The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test weekend is October 1-2. The annual SET encourages maximum participation by all amateur radio operators, partner organizations, and national, state, and local officials who typically engage in emergency or disaster response.

Radio amateurs active in the National Traffic System, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), SKYWARN, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), and a variety of other allied groups are needed to fulfill important roles in this nationwide exercise.

The SET allows volunteers to test equipment, modes, and skills under simulated emergency conditions and scenarios. Individuals can use the time to update a "go-kit" for use during deployments, and also to test their home station's operational capability in case of an emergency or disaster. To get involved, contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager.

### **ARES Emergency Coordinators (EC)**

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

[Martin County  
Brian H. Gibson, KN4YWW](#)

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

[Okeechobee County  
Jack Schwartz, KM4CRA](#)

**Get involved. Volunteer and be a part of your county ARES team.**



**Local License Exam Contacts**

**Vero Beach ARC**

Bud L. Holman  
 (772) 559-3342  
[budholman@earthlink.net](mailto:budholman@earthlink.net)

**Ft. Pierce ARC**

Jess Porter  
[w4dns@arrl.net](mailto:w4dns@arrl.net)

**Port St. Lucie ARA**

Robert Brown  
 (772) 201-5485  
[brownpsl@comcast.net](mailto:brownpsl@comcast.net)

Send VE news to  
[tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com)

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

# History of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiners

**Prior to 1984**, Amateur radio licensing examinations were administered directly or indirectly by the FCC acting under regulations set out in the Communications Act of 1934, which governed radio communications in the United States of America. Amateur Radio exams were available only at the FCC district offices scattered around the country, although in some circumstances (primarily when the applicant resided at least 125 miles away from one of the district offices) examinations for the first 3 levels of license (Novice, Technician, and General) were available by mail. The General class license, if issued as a result of a mail examination, was known as the "Conditional" class. Even with the situation where exams could be taken by mail, the actual grading of the exams was still performed by FCC personnel.

The volunteer examiner (VE) program was created because of several factors. With budget cuts, the federal government decided to stop administering most categories of radio license examinations. On September 13, 1982, public law 97-259 was enacted, amending the Communications Act of 1934 by permitting the FCC to accept the services of private individuals and organizations to prepare and administer examinations for applicants wishing to obtain (or upgrade) an Amateur Radio license.

Approximately a month later, the ARRL filed a petition requesting that only non-profit educational organizations be allowed to participate in the program. A series of intermediate steps followed, defining how the examinations were to be developed, who would prepare the questions to be used, how the country would be divided into different regions so paperwork could be routed more efficiently, and so on. Ultimately, 13 examination districts were created.

One of the questions that arose was how to handle the expenses involved in preparing, distributing, and administering the various

exams. Another was who would certify the necessary volunteer examiners.

Once these and other procedural questions were resolved, a two-tier arrangement was implemented. A relatively small number of VEC's would be chosen. The VECs would interface between the FCC and individual examiners, who became known as VE's.

Thus, the FCC only needed to work with a few separate organizations, rather than hundreds (or potentially thousands) of VEs. Initially, there were 28 VECs certified by the FCC. That number has declined slowly, and as of this writing there are 14 active VEC programs in operation.

The pool of questions mandated by the FCC was originally managed by 3 VECs, namely the ARRL-VEC, the W5YI-VEC, and the Western Carolina VEC. This situation continued as an informal arrangement for approximately 10 years, until the formation of the National Council of VECs (NCVEC), which now coordinates the question pools.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Treasure Coast VE Report

A license examination session was held on August 13, 2022 in conjunction with the Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club Hamfest.

Port Saint Lucie and Fort Pierce VEs jointly administered the session. Two candidates were tested.

Congratulations to Joe Wilson, KQ4CWO, on earning his Technician ticket.

Another candidate attempted to upgrade his license from Advanced Class to Amateur Extra, but unfortunately was not successful.

The next exam session is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 12, 2022 at the Saint Lucie West campus of Indian River State College. More details next month.

# Ham Radio History: Spark Radio

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 ninth 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.]

Before tubes became available and affordable, making electronic oscillators practical, the spark gap circuit was the most widely used method for generating radio frequency (RF) signals. Its basic design and operation are simple. A capacitor is connected in series with an inductor and a pair of electrodes separated by a small distance—a spark gap.

The capacitor, commonly called a condenser at the time, is charged by a high voltage supply. When this voltage reaches a critical level, a spark jumps the gap completing the circuit for a brief time, enabling the capacitor to quickly discharge through it with a high current. Since there is a large inductor in the circuit, the current keeps flowing past the point where the condenser is completely discharged, and quickly charges it back up in the opposite direction, minus a little bit lost mostly to resistance. The flow then reverses and the process continues.



Spark (damped) wave train

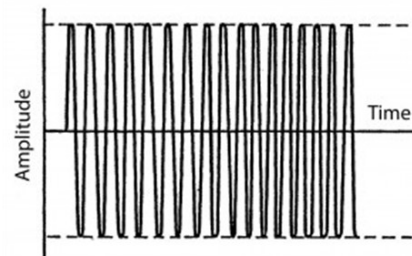
While the spark exists, which is a long time compared with the condenser's charge-discharge cycle, a current flows back and forth through the spark and the inductor, to and from the condenser plates, alternating in direc-

tion with a relatively high frequency determined by the inductance and capacitance. In this way the circuit **rings** under the stimulus of the capacitor's energy released all at once by the spark, just as a bell rings when struck by its clapper.

Tens of cycles of RF current flow in the circuit before resistance and other effects cause the oscillation to die out, or dampen to a low level, and the spark vanishes. A spark signal was therefore also referred to as a **damped wave**. The capacitor is then charged up again by the high voltage supply and the process starts all over. A spark oscillator, therefore, produces a series of bursts of RF current, one each time a new spark is formed. Depending

on the design of the circuit and the gap, tens to thousands of bursts can be produced each second.

If we open up this **closed oscillator** circuit, add a long aerial wire to one end and connect the other end to ground, we now have an **open oscillator** circuit where the aerial is part of the circuit's distributed capacitance and inductance, and it radiates. A telegraph key inserted in the high voltage supply can be used to encode information on the signal by turning it on and off. The open oscillator is now a radiotelegraph transmitter.



Continuous (undamped) waves

An important characteristic of damped waves is the decrease in amplitude, or damping, of each successive RF cycle after a spark begins. If each cycle is of equal amplitude, the decrease is zero and the signal is said to be an **undamped or continuous wave (CW)**. But in spark radio, this damping can be quite large. The amplitude of each successive cycle decreases by a fixed fraction of the previous one — for example, by a tenth after the first cycle, by a tenth of that reduced amplitude during the second, a tenth of that during the third and so forth. Each cycle is reduced by the same fraction, in this case a tenth, of what it started out with. This means the amplitude decrease is exponential in nature and is therefore most conveniently expressed mathematically as a power of **e**, the base of the natural logarithms.<sup>1</sup>

For spark signals, the measurement universally adopted to describe this effect was the natural logarithm of the ratio of one RF cycle to the next successive one, and was called the **logarithmic decrement**, or simply the **decrement**. In the example above, if each successive cycle was ten percent lower than the previous one (or equivalently, 0.9 times the previous one), the ratio of the first one to the second one would be 1.11, and the decrement would be the natural logarithm of 1.11, which equals 0.11.

The radio regulations at the time of spark's heyday, specified in the 1912 law, dictated that no transmission must have a decrement larger than 0.2, which corresponds to a decrease of 18% per RF cycle.<sup>2</sup> With 0.2 decrement, each pulse or **wave train** lasts for 24 cycles. Anything shorter (that is, any decrement larger than 0.2) would exhibit "undesirable tuning qualities," and 0.2 decrement was defined as the boundary between **broad** and **sharp tuning**<sup>3</sup> zero decrement (CW) being the sharpest possible.

(continued on page 5)

## Ham Radio History: Spark Radio

(continued from page 4)

To understand why such a law was needed, think of a damped wave as a modulated CW signal as opposed to a pure one. The signal is pulsed and rapidly decreases in amplitude within each pulse. Since it is modulated, it is much broader than pure CW (there are many frequency components present besides the primary transmitted frequency). The larger the decrement, the broader the signal becomes, and the greater the chances of interference.

Besides the primary radio frequency of oscillation, the other dominant component is the spark frequency, and is therefore also the pitch of the detected signal as heard in a receiver.<sup>4</sup>

The decrement can be lowered by reducing the resistance of the oscillating circuit and by increasing the ratio of inductance to capacitance. This leads to a conflict. Larger capacitance gives larger energy storage capacity, but also increases decrement and requires a larger inductance to resonate, leading to an increased resistance which also increases decrement. In addition, since by definition radiation through the aerial causes a loss of energy (it's radiated away), the resistance of the circuit increases and so does the decrement. Another way of looking at this is that the stronger the radiated signal, the broader it gets. Coupling the oscillator directly to the antenna makes it difficult to have a signal that is both good quality and strong at the same time.

The simple solution is to use two separate circuits — one for the oscillator and one for the antenna — and inductively couple one to the other. This way the oscillator circuit can be designed for energy storage and the antenna circuit for low decrement. With a variable coupling arrangement, the transmitter can be adjusted to radiate with low decrement by minimizing the loss of energy in the closed oscillator and preventing energy in the antenna circuit from coupling back into the oscillator. Adjustment is a matter of trading off antenna current for a sharper signal by using looser (weaker) coupling.

A spark transmitter, therefore, consisted of six basic components: capacitor (condenser), its charging circuit, oscillation inductor, spark gap, coupling to the aerial, and

the aerial itself. Often, the inductor determining the frequency of oscillation was combined with the coupling arrangement and referred to as the **oscillation transformer**, and a separate inductor might also be inserted in the aerial circuit for tuning. Each component could be built in a variety of ways and hams experimented broadly with all of them, individually and in combination. A number of companies sold **instruments** or **apparatus**, as equipment was called, to hams and advertised in *QST* from the beginning.

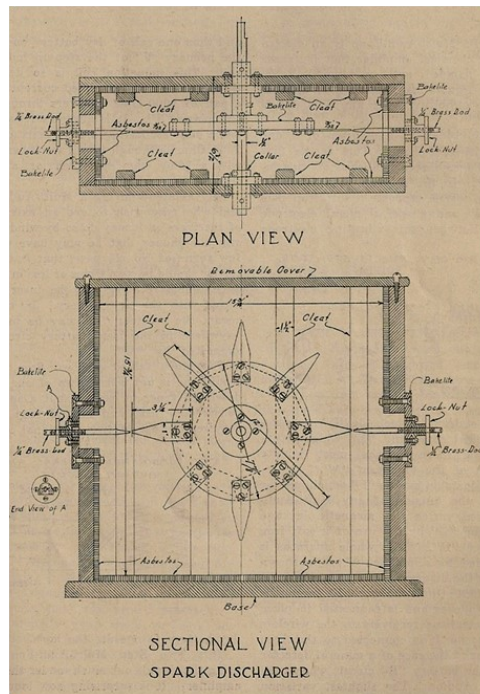
Of particular experimental interest was the spark gap itself, since a repeatable, uniform spark was required to produce the cleanest signal. Ideally, each spark should be the same duration and occur at the same point in each charging cycle. The simplest kind of gap consisted of two electrodes mounted in close proximity with an adjustable spacing that was fixed during operation. But it required very careful adjustment of the gap to get repeatable spark discharge times and durations in each cycle. One method of improving spark uniformity was to **quench** it rapidly after discharge using a blast of air or a continuous air stream. A better way that became popular was to use a fixed series of electrodes positioned around a circle with an opposing set of electrodes mounted on a motor driven rotor —

forming what was called a **rotary gap**.<sup>5</sup>

In a **rotary gap**, the spark could occur only when two electrodes came into close proximity during each rotation. Thus the spark frequency could be controlled independently of the charging frequency, and so it was referred to as a **non-synchronous rotary gap**.

For example, if you built a rotary spark gap with 4 stationary contacts, one every 90° around the inside of a circle, and two moving contacts on opposite ends of a rotating bar inside the circle, you'd get 4 sparks per rotation — two simultaneous ones on opposite ends of the rotor. Spinning the rotor at a high rate of speed, say 100 rotations per second, would get you a spark frequency of 400 per second, which would translate into a major tone of 400 cycles per second in the receiver, even though the charging AC current might have been only standard 60 cycles-per-second.

(continued on page 6)



Rotary gap design drawing

(continued from page 5)

But being **non-synchronous** meant that sparks occurred at various times during the charging cycle, at a different voltage for each one, and thus were non-uniform. Therefore non-synchronous gaps were typically driven at much greater rotational speed, with more electrodes so as to get a more “musical” note, as they called it. An even better technique was to synchronize the sparks with the charging waveform in a **synchronous rotary gap**, the most popular design of the time.

A **synchronous gap** was not difficult to build. One simply made the number of electrode gap positions equal to the number of poles in the AC motor that drove the rotor and was powered by the same supply as the capacitor charging circuit.

In one popular design, a disk on which a number of electrodes were mounted was spun within a frame to which stationary electrodes were fixed. The frame’s angle relative to the rotor could be changed manually through some number of degrees around the disk so that the exact point in the charging cycle at which the spark occurred could be adjusted. High power (approximately 500 kW) versions used by commercial stations might typically use a disk with 20 to 30 electrodes contained within an enclosure to muffle the loud screeching noise it made when operating.

A **synchronous gap** that was also quenched properly ensured that each spark was uniform and short lived, preventing energy in the aerial circuit from being coupled back into the oscillator circuit, and permitting closer coupling of oscillator to aerial. You could therefore transfer higher power to the aerial and achieve a cleaner, sharper signal at the same time.

□ □ □ □  
de W2PA

1. Approximately 2.718
2. The law also specified that any harmonic could have at most 10% the energy of the primary wavelength.
3. E. E. Bucher, “Practical Wireless Telegraphy,” Wireless Press, Inc., 1917, 91.
4. Without a beat frequency oscillator, or BFO—more on that later
5. E. E. Bucher, “Practical Wireless Telegraphy,” Wireless Press, Inc., 1917, 102-105.

(Next issue: **Aerials, Attachments and Audibility**)

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



## Got My License, Now What? Decibels (dB) & Standing Wave Ratios (SWR)

**We normally keep track** of our Standing Wave Ratio. Some meters have a scale that indicates Reflected Power Percentage. A 3:1 SWR indicates reflection of 25% power. Sounds like quite a loss, but how much does it differ in what we hear? To give you an idea of how much difference you will actually hear, we will use a simple example. Our load is a resonant antenna or a pure resistive load at some value other than 50 ohms. Either way the load looks the same if we are right at the resonant point of the antenna.

**Now we can look** at a **nomograph**. What is that? Ho Ho! it makes life simpler! It shows forward power horizontally compared to reflected power vertically. There are several straight lines at a 45-degree angle across the graph that represent various SWR values.

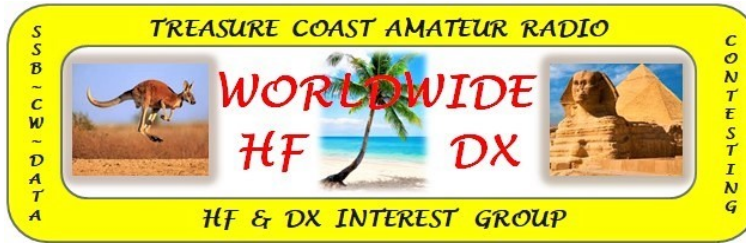
**We will pick** an unacceptable SWR like 10:1. On the SWR meter it will appear like nothing is going out. However on the nomograph at 10 watts forward, it shows reflected power at 5 watts. Only half the power measured is reflected. How does that calculate in dB? Using our formula it figures to be a 2.3 dB loss. With most receivers this will be a little over 1/3 of an S-unit. However at the same time, our ears will detect the loss.

**This figure will vary** with loads that are not a pure resistance, and loss will increase with frequency. However it gives you an idea of what your actually losing. So why is it that at a 10:1 SWR you are not getting heard at all? This is not due to reflected loss. The solid state radios will only provide a small amount of power out at this high an SWR.

**If you are at 10:1 SWR** due to moving from a frequency where your SWR was 1:1, you will find by using a tuner to cancel the reactance, you will allow the radio to put full power out.

**Many are surprised** that communications can do well with this high mis-match when compensated by a Tuner. This is a very controlled example, just to give you an idea of what a loss may sound like. It can get quite complicated, however, unless we are into antenna design, it is not necessary to be overly concerned. If you are dealing with a high SWR, use the Tuner to reduce it. This will allow the radio to put maximum power out and it protects to the transistorized power amp. In many cases performance will be just fine.

73, Ralph WD0EJA, Bilal Co.,  
[wd0eja@isotronantennas.com](mailto:wd0eja@isotronantennas.com)



**The HF & DX Interest Group is Back in Business**

Armed with a new logo and a new name to reflect the expanded discussion topics, the group held its fourth meeting of the post covid-19 era on August 10th at Bob Evans restaurant in St. Lucie West.

Eight HF enthusiasts gathered over breakfast. Joining the gathering were:

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Ed, K1AP     | Bob, W4RJP |
| Bruce, W8HW  | Ron, W9GOL |
| Dick, K4NJ   | Ray, AD4AN |
| Bill, KI4SSI | Bob, AI4RB |

Besides enjoying a good meal, participants engaged in lively discussion about a number of HF and DX topics, including on-air activities and logs, upcoming special operat-

ing events and DXpeditions, and expected propagation conditions for the next few weeks. Also, recently received QSL cards were passed around for everyone to enjoy.

All had a good time, and agreed to meet again in September.

**The next breakfast meeting will be on Friday, September 9, 2022 at 9:00 AM at the Bob Evans restaurant, 1830 SW Fountainview Blvd, St. Lucie West.**

If you have an interest in HF and DXing, consider joining us. Bring your log and QSL cards. And bring a friend.

*(Please note: You will be responsible for purchasing your own breakfast.)*

**Russian and Ukrainian Radios**

For many months news channels and the Internet have been filled with Putin’s invasion of Ukraine. Most western intelligence agencies gave Russia, with its powerful military, the advantage. Many claimed Ukraine would be taken in a month. But if you’ve ever been in a war you know things don’t always go as planned. The Ukrainians appear to be masters of innovation and decentralized warfare. The Russian’s on the other hand seem to be heavily reliant on strict command and control from Moscow.

It has been reported Russia has advanced radio systems. Ukraine as you would expect uses what it can. I recently found several interesting pictures. Look closely at the radios and make your own judgment.



Russian colonel's Baofeng UV5R radio (He's now SK)



Ukrainian soldier's radios

## Upcoming Hamfests

### FLORIDA

10/07/2022 - 10/08/2022

[Melbourne Hamfest, ARRL Florida State Convention](#)

Melbourne, FL

Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS)

<http://pcars.org>

11/26/2022

[Palm Beach County Ham Radio festival](#)

West Palm Beach, FL

Palms West Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.palmswestradio.org>

### ONLINE

09/17/2022 - 9/18/2022

[QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#)

Online virtual ham expo

<http://qsotodayhamexpo.com>

**NC ARRL SECTION CONVENTION**  
**SHELBY 2022 HAMFEST**  
 September 2-4, 2022  
 Cleveland County  
 Fairground Shelby, NC  
[chairman@shelbyhamfest.org](mailto:chairman@shelbyhamfest.org)  
 980-295-5151  
**W4NYR SARCUB SHELBY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

## 66th Annual Grand-daddy of Them All

### Hours of Operation

Friday September 2, 2022 — 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM (Buildings & Flea Market)

Saturday September 3, 2022 — Gates open at 7:00 AM (Outside Vendors)

Inside Vendor Buildings 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday September 4, 2022 — Gates open at 7:00 AM (Outside Vendors)

Inside Vendor Buildings 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### Location

1751 E Marion St, Shelby, NC 28152

Approximately 35 miles West of Charlotte Douglas International Airport

### Tickets

Until August 25 buy tickets & save \$1.00 online & \$2.00 through mail. Buying Early also gets you into a Pre-Registration drawing for an ICOM ID-4100. The Pre-Registration prize is a very popular radio amongst amateur radio operators who enjoy DSTAR and Analog 2m & 440mhz. Main Prizes are Yaesu FT891 & Icom 7300 HF radios. We also have HT giveaways every other hour! You do not need to be present to win these club sponsored prizes. We will ship to the lower 48 states.

For info email: [chairman@shelbyhamfest.org](mailto:chairman@shelbyhamfest.org)

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

### Simultaneous Ops of APRS and Voice Repeater on ISS

ARISS is pleased to announce that starting August 11, simultaneous operations of the ARISS Voice Repeater and digital APRS communications on the International Space Station (ISS) is now a reality. Current ARISS operations include voice repeater transmissions with the JVC Kenwood D710GA in the Columbus module and APRS packet operation from an identical radio in the Service Module (Zvezda). Packet operations are on 145.825 MHz.

The ARISS Russia and USA teams have been working for several weeks to prepare the Service Module radio for APRS operations. ARISS Russia team member Sergey Samburov, RV3DR, led the effort, working with Russian mission controllers and the on-board ISS cosmonauts to configure the Service Module radio for APRS ops. On August 11, final checkouts were completed and the APRS packet mode was switched on for amateur radio use.

ARISS-International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO states,

“Simultaneous operation of APRS and the voice repeater on ISS is transformative for ARISS and represents a key element of our ARISS 2.0 initiative, providing interactive capabilities 24/7 that inspire, engage and educate youth and life-long learners — especially life-long learning in ham radio operations.” Bauer continues, “Our heartfelt thanks to Sergey Samburov, RV3DR, for making this crucial ARISS 2.0 initiative become a reality.”

The Columbus Module radio uses the callsign NA1SS and the new Service Module radio uses RS0ISS. Aside from the callsigns, the radios are identical and packet operations are the same as before. You can use RS0ISS, ARISS, or APR-SAT as the packet path. Also, both radios are expected to be on full time, except during educational contacts, EVAs, and dockings or undockings.

You can find operational status and expected downtimes of the ISS radios at <https://www.ariss.org/current-status-of-iss-stations>. (Thanks Dave Jordan, AA4KN, ARISS PR, for the above information)



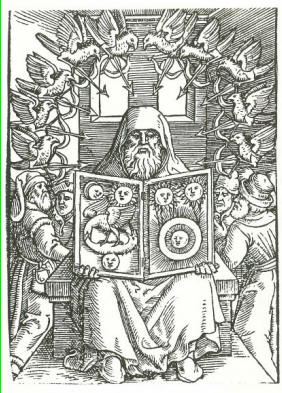
# Welcome to the Treasure Coast Ham News Monthly Meetings, Nets, and Events Calendar

If you know of an event, net, or meeting and think it would be of interest to our Treasure Coast Hams,

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

# September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2)	2	3
4 TC R/T Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	5 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) 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)	6 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 OARC ARES Net-8pm 147.195(-) (100.0)	7 SLC ARES Net-7:30pm 147.240(+)(107.2) or Winlink Checkin sent to W4ISZ SLC ARES WinLink Wednesday's	8 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) VBARC Mtg-7:30pm 4225 43rd Av Vero Bch	9	10
11 TC R/T Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	12 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) 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)	13 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	14 FPARC Mtg-7:30pm Indian River State College Ft. Pierce-Bldg R, Rm 124 Check FPARC website for any room number changes SLC ARES WinLink Wednesday's	15 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2)	16	17 Vero Beach ARC QRP Event (See <a href="https://w4ot.webs.com/">https://w4ot.webs.com/</a> for details)
18 TC R/T Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	19 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) 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)	20 IRC ARES Meeting 145.130(-) (107.2) FPARC R/T Net-8pm 147.35(+)(107.2) D-Star Net-8:30pm 444.500(+5) Port B	21 SLC ARES Mtg-7:30pm SLC EOC-15305 Midway Rd, Ft. Pierce In person Quarterly ZOOM Mtg other months SLC ARES WinLink Wednesday's	22 Indian River Co. ARES 4225 43rd Av Vero Bch Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) MCARA Mtg-7pm 802 SE Monterey, Stuart	23	24
25 TC R/T Net-8pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	26 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) 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)	27 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	28 PSLARA Meeting Indian River State College Veteran's Resource Ctr. 500 NW California Blvd. SLC ARES WinLink Wednesday's	29 Slow CW Net-6:30pm (on hiatus, need a Net Op) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2)	30	1
3	4	TC: Treasure Coast IRC: Indian River County SLC: St. Lucie County PSLARA: Port St. Lucie Amateur Radio Association ( <a href="http://www.pslara.org">www.pslara.org</a> ) FPARC: Ft. Pierce Amateur Radio Club ( <a href="https://fparc.org/">https://fparc.org/</a> ) MCARA: Martin County Amateur Radio Association ( <a href="https://mcaraweb.com/">https://mcaraweb.com/</a> ) OARC: Okeechobee County Amateur Radio Club VBARC: Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club ( <a href="http://www.w4ot.com/">http://www.w4ot.com/</a> )			R/T: Ragchew/Traders Emer.: Emergency	

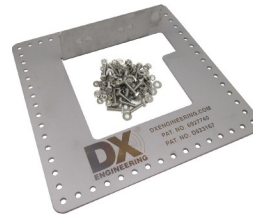


## Ramblings of an Antenna Alchemist

**Several years ago** I bought an old Butternut HF6V vertical antenna for \$50. A bargain. The antenna was dirty, but a little cleanup brought it back. It was missing the 30 meter coil. I would address that later. The 40 meter doorknob cap was also missing. Those caps can be very expensive of late. I had some doorknobs found at ham-fests in my junk box and felt sure I could make one work.

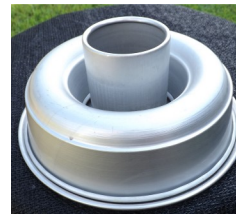
**Butternut vertical antennas** generally have a good reputation. The HF6V is a multi-band antenna, operating on 80, 40, 30, 20, 15, and 10 meters. The antenna doesn't use traps. Instead, a series of L/C coils/rods achieves resonance on the multiple bands. The antenna can handle a full kilowatt on SSB and almost half of that on digital and CW. The HF6V is 26 feet high, making it very suitable for our urban backyards.

**Over the years** I built different types of vertical antennas. Early on they were helical designs. On 40 meters they were big resistors. However on 20 and 15 meters they performed okay. Since they were single band, attaching radials was simple. From there, I moved on to center fed verticals (actually dipoles). EZNEC is my tool for basic designing. With EZNEC results, I would move outside to verify the results.



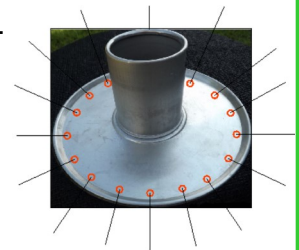
**The HF6V** needs 12 or more radials. For permanent mounting, DX Engineering sells a nice radial plate for \$90.

**But, let's say you want** to use the HF6V for Field Day. Would there be a way to easily attach radials? That was what I contemplated rummaging around Restore in PSL. I usually head for the hardware section, but for some reason that day I went to house wares. There on a shelf sat a bunt cake plan.



**I saw possibilities.** The bottom section was made with thick aluminum. While the top part wasn't necessary, it could be a nice cover for the bottom.

**How about** attaching radials. Easy! Drill holes through the bottom plate, add stainless bolts, washers, nuts and wire and done!



73, *The Antenna Alchemist*



## Short Takes

### PH2IB's Reverse voltage protection approaches

<https://www.ph2ib.nl/blog/index.php?page=reverse-voltage-protection>

### WSPR Live

[https://wspr.live/gui/d/LmMd4oUiz/station-activity?var-sign=VA3UAL&var-mode=tx&var-not\\_mode=rx&var-band=10&var-band=14&var-band=28&from=now-30d&to=now&orgId=1](https://wspr.live/gui/d/LmMd4oUiz/station-activity?var-sign=VA3UAL&var-mode=tx&var-not_mode=rx&var-band=10&var-band=14&var-band=28&from=now-30d&to=now&orgId=1)

### Turing Machines

[Turing Machines | Nuts & Volts Magazine \(nutsvolts.com\)](https://www.turingmachines.com/)

### Jameco Electronics Troubleshooting tech Tips

[Learning Center: Tech Tips | \(jameco.com\)](https://www.jameco.com/learning-center/tech-tips/)

### Amateur Radio Study Guides (Free download)

<https://www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/>

### Grid Square Calculator

<https://fistsna.org/gridcalc.php>

### Radio Telegraphy Net

<https://www.radiotelegraphy.net/>

### Monitoring Times Archive

<https://worldradio-history.com/Monitoring-Times.htm>

### Email & Chat Groups

(Note: some groups may require registration.)

### Vintage Amateur Radio Stations

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/571937920550425/>

See an interesting web site or Group? Tell us about it. Send link to [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com)

# Treasure Coast Ham Doctors



## WSJT-X, FT8, DXpeditions & Special Event Stations

As solar conditions continue to improve more and more DXpeditions are being organized, meaning the next couple of years could be exciting for amateur radio.

DXpeditions often announce their intent to operate on specific frequencies. When operating in digital modes, these frequencies are often not in the standard sub-bands so as to not clog the band with large pileups, thus allowing other operators room to operate.

This month's question is about WSJT-X and non-standard operating frequencies.

### Question:

Because of its age, I am unable to control my radio automatically using a connection from a computer running WSJT-X or any other ham application.

As a result, when a DXpedition or special event station is operating on a non-standard frequency, not only must I tune my radio to their frequency, I must also manually enter that frequency into the operating frequency box in WSJT-X.

One time while doing this I made a typo error in the frequency box by transposing two digits.

I was still successful in making several contacts with the special event operators, but due to my typing error, all my contacts logged with erroneous frequencies. This is because logging in WSJT-X uses the base frequency shown in the Frequency box on the main screen to calculate the actual operating frequency. Fortunately, I realized my mistake and was able to make corrections to my logs.

My question is a simple one, "Is there an easier way in WSJT-X to deal with non-standard operating frequencies?"

### Answer:

Yes indeed. There is an easier (and better) way to handle non-standard frequencies.

If you know that a special event station, DXpedition or some other group is going to operate on a non-standard frequency, you can build that frequency info WSJT's fre-

quency pick list. Then all you need do is "point and click" to switch WSJT to the non-standard frequency. Here's how to do it.

For purposes of this example let's use 20-meters, where 14,074,000 MHz is the standard FT8 operating frequency. And let's assume a special event station will be operating on 14,086,000 MHz. Use the following steps to add the non-standard frequency to the WSJT-X frequency pick list.

From the main WSJT-X operating screen, use your mouse to click on **File – Settings**. Then click on the **Frequencies** tab. A table will be displayed listing all bands supported by WSJT-X and all operating modes supported within each band.

Next, right mouse-click anywhere within the table. A small box labelled "**WSJT-X Add Frequency**" will open. In this box do the following:

1. Open the IARU Region picklist and select "**All**."
2. Open the Mode picklist and Select "**FT8**."
3. In the Frequency (MHZ) box enter "**14.086000**". (Note the only decimal is after the "14.")
4. Click on "**OK**" to close the "**Add Frequency**" box.
5. Click on "**OK**" to close the "**Settings**" screen and return to the main WSJT-X screen.

Now, when you click on the Band Selection picklist both 14.074 and 14.086 will show up as 20-meter frequencies.

Frequencies can be added for any band and/or mode supported by WSJT-X. When you no longer need the non-standard frequency simply return to the table (**File – Settings – Frequencies**), highlight the frequency no longer needed, right mouse click and select "Delete."

We hope this idea helps.

73, [The Doctors](#)

Got a question for the doctors? We will try to help. Send your questions to: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com).

### RICHARD A "DICK" CASSADA, W4DAC (SK)

Long time PSLARA member Dick Cassada, W4DAC, became a Silent Key on July 24th, 2022. Dick served the club for many years in various capacities as an officer, director, volunteer examiner and ARES member.

Besides amateur radio, Dick was active in the Shriners Organization where he was a Past Potentate.

Please keep Dick's wife Dawn and their family in your thoughts and prayers.



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

**DX OPPORTUNITIES**

**TIMOR-LESTE, 4W.** Satoshi, JH2EUV is QRV as 4W/JH2EUV. Activity on 40 to 10 meters using mostly FT8. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

**CYPRUS, 5B.** Look for station P3CG to be QRV from Cape Greco, ILLW CY0004, during the International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend. QSL via 5B8AP.

**TAIWAN, BV.** Look for station BV1EJ to be QRV from the Kaohsiung Lighthouse, ILLW TW0001, International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend. QSL via QRZ.com

**MAYOTTE, FH.** Marek, F4VVJ will be QRV as FH4VVK, Petite-Terre, IOTA AF-027, August 20 to April 1, 2024. Activity in his spare time. QSL direct to home call.

**SCOTLAND, GM.** Members of the Zetland Amateur Radio Club will be QRV as GB2ELH from Eshaness Lighthouse, ILLW UK00058, Shetland Islands, IOTA EU-012, during the International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend. QSL via GM0GFL.

**FINLAND, OH.** Members of the Scandinavian Young Lady Radio Amateurs, and DL3KWF and DL3KWR, will be QRV as OH1SYL from Katanpaa Island, IOTA EU-096, from August 21 to 23. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via OH5KIZ.

**THAILAND, HS.** Brad, VK2FY is QRV as HS0ZNR until September 2. Activity on 160 to 10 meters. QSL direct to home call.

**DJIBOUTI, J2.** J28RC is a new club station located in a US Army military camp. QSL via EA5GL.

**JORDAN, JY.** Nart, JY5IB is QRV from Amman. Active on 60 to 12 meters using FT8. QSL direct to home call.

**ÅLAND ISLAND, OH0.** A group of operators will be QRV as OG0C from August

22 to 28. Activity on 160 to 2 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, & FT8; focus on 30, 17, 12, and 6 meters. QSL via OH5C.

**CAYMAN ISLANDS, ZF.** ZF1PB/9 is QRV from Cayman Brac, IOTA NA-016, until August 22. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands using SSB. QSL direct to home call.

**ALBANIA, ZA.** Vladimir, Z35M will be QRV as ZA/Z35M on August 23. Activity will be on 40 to 15 meters using CW and SSB with 5 watts. QSL to home call.

**DX SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS**

**LITHUANIA, LY.** Special call sign LY770CT is QRV until October 14 to commemorate the 770th anniversary of the founding of the Lithuanian city of Klaipėda. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL via LY1CT and LoTW.

**POLAND, SP.** Members of the Dobrzycki Amateur Radio Club are QRV with special call signs SO550MK, SP550MK and SQ550MK to commemorate 550 years since the birth of astronomer and mathematician Nicolaus Copernicus. QSL via SP3PDO.

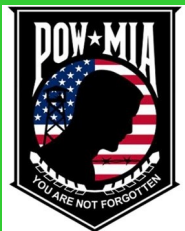
**INDIA, VU.** Station VU2CW is QRV as AT75RADIO until August 21 in celebration of the 75th anniversary of India's independence. QSL to home call.

**INDONESIA, YB.** Special event stations 8H77RI, 8H77I, 8H77N, 8H77D, 8H77O, 8I77N, 8I77E, 8I77S, 8I77I, 8I77A, and 8I77RI are QRV until August 20 to celebrate Indonesia's 77th anniversary of independence. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, FM, and FT8. Will include some Satellite activity as well. QSL via operators' instructions.

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



Special  
Event Stations



**National POW MIA  
Recognition Day  
Sep 10-Sep 18, 2022,  
K4MIA.**

7.195, 14.265, 18.150  
28.400. Certificate & QSL:  
Michael Bald, 6758 Hall  
Blvd., Loxahatchee, FL  
33470. Observances of  
National POW MIA  
Recognition Day are held  
across this country on the  
third Friday in September  
each year. On Sept 16,  
K4MIA will be transmit-  
ting from a Vietnam  
UH1H Huey helicopter.  
There will be sister sta-  
tions K4MIA/2, K4MIA/4,  
K4MIA/5, K4MIA/7 &  
K4MIA/8 in operation.  
Days listed above are pri-  
mary operational days.  
Modes used will be SSB,  
CW, FT8 & Satellite oper-  
ation. Throughout the  
month of Sept, K4MIA will  
be on less used digital  
modes, SSTV, & hopefully  
EME again. See QRZ for a  
lot more information & a  
copy of this year's QSL  
card. Because of the vol-  
ume of requests, you  
MUST SEND SASE to get  
a returned QSL.. Please  
take time to remember  
our POW's, MIA's, KIA's  
as well as their families.  
[radiomb@bellsouth.net](mailto:radiomb@bellsouth.net) or  
[www.qrz.com/db/k4mia](http://www.qrz.com/db/k4mia)

(From ARRL & other sources)

Have some fun making contact with these Special Event stations using Digital, CW or SSB modes.

**95th Anniversary - Invention of TV**

**Sep 1-Sep 12, 0000Z-2359Z, K7T** Utah DX Association. 14.250 7.200. QSL: Wesley Wilkinson, 7363 S Galaxy Hill Rd, West Jordan, UT 84081. [w7wes@yahoo.com](mailto:w7wes@yahoo.com)

**Young Amateurs Radio Club -  
Worked All YARC Zones**

**Sep 1- Sep 15, 1800Z-1800Z, WY4RC**  
Young ARC WY4RC. 14.250, all bands, all modes. Certificate: Tyler Schroder, PO Box 201266, New Haven, CT 06520. The Young ARC, is hosting our first annual YARC-WAYZ (Worked All YARC Zones) special event! Youth operators will be activating WY4RC/# in the ten US call zones from September 1 to 15, 2022. Different awards are available for operators who contact at least six or all zones during the event. If you know of youth who would be interested in operating, please point them to our Discord server, <https://discord.gg/yarc>. Check out our rules & award details. More information is available online at <https://yarc.world/index.php/events/2022/yarc-worked-all-yarc-zones-wayz-contest-event>

**200th Great Geauga County Fair**

**Sep 2 - Sep 3, 1200Z-0200Z, W8G**  
Geauga ARA. 7.245, 14.245. Certificate & QSL: Jacqueline Welch, P.O. Box 192, Windsor, OH 44099. [www.geaugaara.org](http://www.geaugaara.org)

**Fly In - Cruise In**

**Sep 4, 1200Z-1900Z, W9EBN** Grant County ARC. 3.850, 7.250, 14.250 MHz; DStar: Ref 24B; DMR: Talkgroups- 31656 & 3100. Certificate & QSL: Grant County Amateur Radio Club, c/o L B Nickerson - K9NQW, P O Box 1786, Marion, IN 46952. [grantcountyamateurradioclub@gmail.com](mailto:grantcountyamateurradioclub@gmail.com) or <https://www.grantarc.org>

**Arthur Collins Birthday**

**Sep 10 - Sep 11, 1300Z-0100Z, W0CXX**  
Collins ARC Cedar Rapids, IA. 3.90, 7.180, 14.302, 21.380. Certificate: W0CXX, 1110

Lyndhurst Dr, Hiawatha, IA 52233-1820.  
[w0cxx.us](http://w0cxx.us)

**Initiation of US Airmail & Attendant  
Beacon System**

**Sep 10, 1500Z-2200Z, K0A** South East Metro ARC. 7.035, 7.250, 14.250, 18.100. Certificate: Brian McInerney, N0BM, 2523 Cochrane Dr., Woodbury, MN 55125. [www.semarc.org](http://www.semarc.org)

**Route 66 On the Air**

**Sep 10-Sep 18, 0000Z-2359Z, W6H**  
Albuquerque DX Association. 14.033, 14.266, 3.866, 7.266. QSL: Bill Mader, 4701 Sombrette Rd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124. Operating CW, SSB, & FT8 primarily on 80m-10m, with supporting propagation. Look for our self-spots on your favorite cluster. Find our operating schedule at <http://n2iw.com/route66-2022/index.php>. See our QRZ.com page.

**200th Anniversary Fontenelle Fur  
Trading Post**

**Sep 17 - Sep 18, 1300Z-2300Z, W0N**, Bellevue, NE. Bellevue ARC. CW: 7.060, 14.050; SSB 7.250, 14.250; PSK31 14.070; SSTV: 14.233; D-STAR: Ref 002C. QSL: eQSL or direct to Dudley Allen, KD0NMD, 4509 Anchor Mill Rd, Papillion, NE 68133. [www.bellevuearc.org](http://www.bellevuearc.org)

**USAF 75th Birthday**

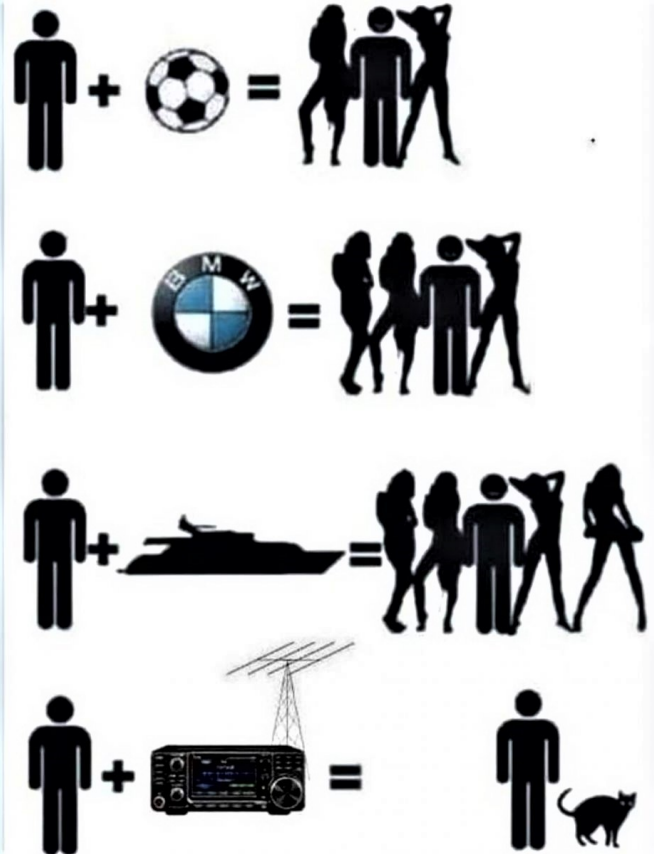
**Sep 17, 1500Z-2359Z, N7GV**, Sahuarita, AZ. Green Valley ARC. 7.260, 14.260. QSL: Richard Rogers, 15747 S Avenida Cuaima, Sahuarita, AZ 85629-8682. Celebrate the 75th birthday of the USAF from the Titan Missile Museum using the discone antenna used by Titan crews when the site was on alert. [rcralb@aol.com](mailto:rcralb@aol.com) or <https://www.gvarc.us>

**Volcano Days Parkersburg WV**

**Sep 24, 1400Z-2200Z, W8PAR**, Parkersburg, WV. Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub. 14.225, 7.225. Certificate & QSL: Jerry Wharton, 1722 20th. St., Parkersburg, WV 26101. Celebrating the early history of oil & gas exploration in the 1850's. [w8par.org](http://w8par.org)



(Basic Mathematics for Amateur Radio)



**What's that? You're asking why no Dick Sylvan, W9CBT, cartoons this month?** Don't fret. Dick's cartoons will return in future issues as we finish retooling the newsletter. Meanwhile, you can always order a copy of Dick's book, "*Hi Hi - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons*" from Lulu.com. [Click here for a link to Dick's book.](#)



## 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](mailto: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 can't pay for articles, you will receive a full byline. Please contact us at: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto: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 annual Stuart Hamfest. Did you attend this year at the Martin Co. Fairgrounds? Check out the pictures in the May, 2022 newsletter archived at [pslara.org](http://pslara.org). Look in the Pub Documents section.

### 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](#).

The FPARC Hamfest held on August 13, 2022. FPARC thanks all volunteers and participants for making it a success. The winner of the grand prize drawing for an SDR radio was Phillip Koscielecki, KC2Y.

### Port St. Lucie Amateur Radio Association

The club officers are: Interim President - Bob, AI4RB; Vice President - Scott, AI4TT; Secretary - Bruce, WA3RHW; Treasurer - Bob, W4RJP. Derek, KO4DAD & Greg, KB4VVE were elected directors, recently.

At the September 28 meeting Glen, KJ4LWZ will present a program about SDR featuring the dongle. Never tried an SDR dongle? These little devices have amazing capabilities. Come, learn, and get your questions answered. The meeting location is the IRSC Veterans Resource Center, 500 NW California Blvd. Watch for updates on the [PSLARA](http://PSLARA) website as we get closer to the meeting date. Please plan to come out to the meeting and support the club. And be sure to invite a friend. Visitors are always welcome at PSLARA meetings.

And please don't forget, PSLARA needs net control operators for their Thursday evening, 7:30pm nets. If you can help out, please drop a line to [info@pslara.org](mailto:info@pslara.org).

### Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club

VBARC was formed in November, 1961 with a small num-

ber of local hams. Today the club has over 100 members and encompasses all of Indian River County. Visit their [web site](#) to learn more about the club. Join them on the Treasure Coast Net, 7.153Mhz every morning at 8:00am.

The Vero Beach club has a robust membership of hams. If you are into QRP, they have an operating event. See the club web site for details.

### Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club

The club officers are: President/Treasurer - Mark, KF4EA; Vice President - Jack, 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 [Jack, KM4CRA](#). Club website: [www.k4oke.com](http://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. Many clubs hold weekly rag chew nets. All 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](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com). Send by the 20th of the month to be included in the next issue.)*

## EQUIPMENT FOR SALE & HELP NEEDED

### ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Looking for help in installing a discrete screwdriver vertical in my backyard with underground coax at my residence.

Contact Gus, NU4L, (772) 263-0430 or email [gberg-es@me.com](mailto:gberg-es@me.com). Please advise if there is any cost and payment method. Thank you very much. Gus, NU4L

*Do you have something to sell or trade? Or perhaps you need a hand with antenna or equipment problems? Drop us a line and we will include it our next issue. Send an email to: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com)*

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](mailto: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.)

**FM4RU**  **Dominique**

FK94NK  
ITU 11  
ZONE 8

To: W4RJP This confirms our 2-way FT8 QSO  
Date: March 1, 2021 Time: 11:31 UTC  
Band: 40M UR Sigs: -11

HELLENIC AIR FORCE  
NATO TIGER MEET 2022  
ARAXOS AFB - 116 CW / 335 SQN




To: AI4RB Confirming 2-way MFSK(FT4) QSO, Band: 17M  
Date: May 19, 2022 Time: 21:10Z, RST: -10

Special Event Station 01-31 May 2022  
Radio Amateur Association of Western Peloponnese

**SX335T** 

**DL5AWI**  
DOK X11

To: W4RJP This confirms our 2-way MFSK QSO  
Date: September 29, 2021 Time: 21:01 UTC  
Band: 20M UR Sigs: +07

**CQ 14**  
**WAZ 28**

**DOK: I54**  
**JO33TF**

**DL5NAU** **OP: Ron**  
**nr Emden**

To: AI4RB Confirming 2-way MFSK(FT4) QSO, Band: 17M  
Date: April 25, 2022 Time: 21:16Z, RST: -08



**TEL-AVIV-YAFO**

**CQ ZONE 20** **ITU ZONE 39**

**ALEX**  
**4Z5ML**

To: W4RJP This confirms our 2-way FT8 QSO  
Date: June 14, 2022 Time: 00:13 UTC  
Band: 17M UR Sigs: -15

**KL7TC**

**Bill Hunstein**  
P.O. Box 10647  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99710  
Fairbanks North Star Borough  
U.S.A.

To: AI4RB Confirming 2-way MFSK(FT4) QSO, Band: 17M: KL7RA  
Date: May 15, 2022 Time: 22:54Z, RST: -08 95 Grid: BP64ev  
FT4 Sent: -08 Rcvd: -05

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](mailto:info@qslconcept.com), or Fabrice directly at [fertron@bftechnicarts.com](mailto:fertron@bftechnicarts.com). Phone 604-729-6454.



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