

Treasure Coast Ham News

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2021

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From The Publishers	2
ARES Update	2
VE Testing Update	3
Ham Radio History	4
Got My License, Now What	6
Upcoming Hamfests	8
Tampa Bay Hamfest	8
Ham Radio Trivia	8
QRP-ARCI Holiday Sprint	9
2x4 DX Group	9
Ham Radio Holiday Gifts	10
New TCHN Calendar	11
The Frugal Ham	12
Short Takes	12
Hurricane Conference Video	12
Ham Doctors	13
FT8 Operating Tip	13
The Antenna Alchemist	14
Bruce's Short Topics (Solar Storm Myth)	15
DX News	17
Special Event Stations	18
Ham Humor	19
We Need You	19
Next Month	20
Club News	20
Ham Gear For Sale	20
QSL Cards	21



To our readers,
With this issue we wrap up the second year of *Treasure Coast Ham News*. We thank our readers for their loyalty and the many positive comments received over the past two years.

As we close the books on 2021, we send along our sincere wishes to all for a joyous holiday season. Enjoy time with your family, and stay healthy and safe. We will see you next in 2022.

B&B Publishing Team

From the Publishers



but most home electric service is now underground.

Recently, a solar power company sales person knocked on our door. Armed with a polished sales speech and a tablet filled with scary information about electric power costs going up 25% next year, he belabored the importance of switching to the sun to generate electric power. After all he said, *“the sun is a free electric power source.”* I countered *“so is the wind and it can blow day and night.”*

I listened until he began to repeat his assertions and politely butted in, *“What about using a solar power system when FPL’s power grid is down?”* He stumbled a little in his response. Finally, he said, *“The solar power system could not be cross-connected to power your house.”* *“So,”* I said, *“Where is all the power going?”* *“Into the grid”* he beamed. *“You mean I am not using the power I generate?”* I said. *“Of course you are. FPL is giving it back to you via their grid.”* *“But what happens when FPL cuts or a hurricane takes out the power grid?”* I inquired. He quietly said *“generator.”* Of course everyone that lives in South Florida knows a backup generator is a wise choice whether the power service is overhead, buried, or from the sun.



The [Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#) (ARES) is an ARRL public service program.

The National Weather Service, Melbourne office is offering SKYWARN™ basic and advanced virtual online classes. Those who participate become official SKYWARN™ spotters and receive a SKYWARN™ ID card and unique ID number. Attending a class in person has been difficult, so this inline training is your opportunity to become a SKYWARN™ spotter. [Register Here](#).

What is SKYWARN™? SKYWARN™ is a national network of volunteer severe weather spotters. The spotters are trained by local National Weather Service

Last year FPL notified property owners in our subdivision of their plan to bury our electric power service. Outages were not overly common, but did occur from time to time. The project started slowly,

Quickly changing the subject he said, *“It’s not going to cost much to install our solar power equipment. Payback will be quick with the huge increases coming.”* I asked what is the payback timeline. He said, *“10 to 15 years, maybe even shorter.”* *“And the cost?”* I said. *“Pennies,”* he said smiling. I echoed, *“A lot of pennies, I think.”*

I then asked, *“How much RF noise did his company’s equipment generate?”* Now he was perplexed. *“You mean like audio noise,”* he said. *“No, I mean radio frequency noise.”* I guess no one ever asked that before. I explained to him I was a ham radio operator and am very concerned with RF noise. I asked to see his equipment specifications. He gave me a quizzical look. I further asked if his solar panels and equipment were FCC Section 15, Part B compliant.

I explained that one of the major problems with solar and DC power equipment is that almost none of it meets the standards for FCC Section 15, Part B. Nearly all appliances and electronic equipment in our homes must comply with FCC Part B, which regulates the maximum amount of EMI devices can radiate. That is why you don’t get a lot of noise from a microwave, coffee grinder, or TVs these days. His eyes were getting fuzzy. He leafed through his tablet screens for information only to find the company had not provided answers to my questions.

By this time he was looking for an opportunity to exit. No hope of a quick sale here. As he walked down our driveway I yelled *“Come back when you know what you are selling.”* But he was long gone.

73, TCHamNews Publishers

Forecast Offices on how to spot severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail and flooding. Many amateur radio operators volunteer as SKYWARN™ spotters.

To celebrate Amateur Radio’s many contributions to SKYWARN™, The National Weather Service has designated the 24 hours from December 3, 2021 @ 7:00 PM to December 4, 2021 @ 7:00 PM as SKYWARN™ RECOGNITION DAY 2021.

During the event, all trained SKYWARN™ spotters are encouraged to check-in with the NWS using their spotter ID number.

Details concerning the event are available here: [SKYWARN™ Recognition Day](#).

Treasure Coast ARES Emergency Coordinators

Martin County
[Steve Marshall, WW4RX](#)

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

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

**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

No Sessions Scheduled, but "On Demand" Testing Available

The Port Saint Lucie Amateur Radio Association and Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club do not have any VE License Examination Sessions scheduled at the present time.

It is hoped an exam session can be scheduled sometime before the end of the year. An announcement will be made if arrangements can be finalized.

Meanwhile, Port Saint Lucie ARA will arrange "on demand" exam sessions as necessary. Email AI4RB for more info, or call Bob at 772-201-5485.

The Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club is also offering license exams on an "as needed" basis at this time. Email ve@w4ot.com for information.

Watch next month's *Treasure Coast Ham News* for further updates.

Meanwhile, if you know someone looking to take an exam, please notify one of the local contacts listed below.

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

PSL is Still Looking for a Venue

If you know of a location in Port Saint Lucie willing to host monthly Saturday morning exam sessions please send an email to: brownpsl@comcast.net.

Update on the \$35 FCC Processing Fee for New Licenses and Renewals

It now looks like the new FCC processing fee will become effective sometime in 2022, possibly early in the year.

If you are studying for a license you may want to take the exam before the end of the year. By doing so, you will avoid the new processing fee and retain \$35 in your wallet.

Watch this column for an update when the effective date of the processing fee is announced.

Recent FCC Rule Changes

Email address required. Don't forget, effective June 29, 2021, all applications filed with the FCC by current licensees or new license candidates must include an email address where the applicant can receive FCC correspondence. More info is available on this ARRL [webpage](#).

FCC Registration Number required. All license exam candidates are required to include an FCC Registration Number (FRN) on the license application form 605. Social Security numbers will no longer be accepted. Important - You must obtain your FRN prior to arriving at an examination session.

An FCC video provides instructions on obtaining an FRN. [You can view it here.](#)

Send VE news to tchamnews@gmail.com.

Ham Radio History: The Squeak Box - Kids with Keys

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 story is the second in a series of articles planned over the next few months about the earliest days of radio history. The stories are reprinted here with permission of the author. Visit [Ham Radio History](#).]

Among pre-teens, mostly boys took to radio.⁽¹⁾ At its simplest, radio was affordable. Boys could buy or make parts to build simple receivers and even low power spark transmitters. Typically, a kid would hook together a crystal receiver using a metallic mineral such as galena, scraps of used wire and a set of headphones, perhaps the most expensive component. This basic receiver was not much more than a rock, some wire and a telephone receiver. But it was magic! A radio receiver that required no battery, no AC power, no power at all except for the energy of the received radio signals themselves.

Transmitting was only a little more complicated. An old automotive spark coil, dry cell battery, fixed spark gap and key constituted a simple spark transmitter, albeit a broad, noisy, un-tuned one. With a setup like this a kid could communicate with his friends over several city blocks. As this became wildly popular, it also was the bane of the serious urban ham trying to work long distances.

A kid using a squeak box, as the simple spark coil transmitter was called, could easily cover up weak signals coming from the next call district or further away. Even today, many hams have experienced the situation when, straining to hear a weak CW signal from far away, a relatively strong station begins transmitting just as the weak distant one is about to send a call sign or signal report or other piece of information crucial to making a complete contact. Imagine doing this with a broad

bandwidth receiver and coarse tuning (or none at all).

Marconi's experiments with wireless ignited the imagination of a particular 11-year-old boy in Mt. Vernon, New York like nothing else ever had. The morning papers on 14 December 1901 reported the latest thrill. A transmitter in Cornwall, England had just been heard in Newfoundland by the great man himself using a wire suspended from a kite! For young Irving Vermilya and thousands of his contemporaries, however, transmitting signals across ever greater distances was not what grabbed them.

Although exciting, it took engineering skill and financial backing to build powerful transmitters. But even a kid from Mt. Vernon could receive radio signals with some wire and a few relatively inexpensive parts. He knew he absolutely had to be a part of it and pleaded with his two main authorities—his father and the family minister—to help him not just get information and equipment, but to meet Marconi!⁽²⁾

Reverend C. H. Tyndal, pastor of the Mt. Vernon Reformed Church, was not a typical clergyman. Drawn to wireless himself, he had closely followed Marconi's work and often talked about it to his congregation. This was unusual enough to warrant column space in the New York Times, which announced his sermon "Wireless Telegraphy and its Spiritual Similitudes" to be delivered on 19 May, complete with a live demonstration. When interviewed, however, Rev. Tyndal said he saw nothing remarkable about the event at all, despite the press interest.⁽³⁾

A few months later Tyndal had not only met Marconi, he had been given a code key, a coherer and plans and documents on how to use them, all of which he shared with the boy from his



Big Money in Electricity

The electrical industries offer wonderful opportunities to boys with a liking for Electricity. The salaries paid to trained men are large, promotion comes rapidly and, best of all, the work is fascinating.

The discovery and development of new lines (such as wireless telegraphy and telephony), from time to time, promise attractive and paying fields to those who wish to specialize. The *will to do* and *Special Training* will bring success to you.

The International Correspondence Schools can help you to become an expert in electrical work, no matter what branch you like best. Thousands of young men have already won success through I.C.S. help. You can do as well as anybody, *if you try*. Everything is made so clear that you can learn in your spare time, regardless of where you live or what your work. No books to buy.

There's big money in Electricity. Get after it by marking and mailing the Coupon today. *Finding out costs you nothing.*

—TEAR OUT HERE—

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS
Box 6130, SCRANTON, PA.

Explain, without obligating me, how I can qualify for the position, or in the subject, before which I mark X.

<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	<input type="checkbox"/> CHEMICAL ENGINEER
<input type="checkbox"/> Electrician	<input type="checkbox"/> SALESMANSHIP
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Wiring	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVERTISING MAN
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> Window Trimmer
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Car Running	<input type="checkbox"/> Show Card Writer
<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Electric Traction	<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Sign Painter
<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Draftsman	<input type="checkbox"/> RAILROADER
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Machine Designer	<input type="checkbox"/> ILLUSTRATOR
<input type="checkbox"/> Telegraph Expert	<input type="checkbox"/> DESIGNER
<input type="checkbox"/> Practical Telephony	<input type="checkbox"/> BOOKKEEPER
<input type="checkbox"/> MECHANICAL ENGINEER	<input type="checkbox"/> Stenographer and Typist
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Draftsman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cert. Public Accountant
<input type="checkbox"/> Machine Shop Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Railway Accountant
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Law
<input type="checkbox"/> CIVIL ENGINEER	<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD ENGLISH
<input type="checkbox"/> Surveying and Mapping	<input type="checkbox"/> Common School Subjects
<input type="checkbox"/> MINE FOREMAN OR ENGINEER	<input type="checkbox"/> CIVIL SERVICE
<input type="checkbox"/> Metallurgist or Prospector	<input type="checkbox"/> Railway Mail Clerk
<input type="checkbox"/> STATIONARY ENGINEER	<input type="checkbox"/> Textile Overseer or Supt.
<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECT	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<input type="checkbox"/> Architectural Draftsman	<input type="checkbox"/> Navigation <input type="checkbox"/> German
<input type="checkbox"/> PLUMBING AND HEATING	<input type="checkbox"/> Poultry Raising <input type="checkbox"/> French
<input type="checkbox"/> Sheet Metal Worker	<input type="checkbox"/> Automobiles <input type="checkbox"/> Italian

Name _____
 Present _____
 Occupation _____
 Street _____
 and No. _____
 City _____ State _____

If name of Course you want is not in this list, write it below.

(continued on page 5)

Ham Radio History: The Squeak Box-Kids with Keys

by Chris Codella, W2PA

(continued from page 4)

congregation. Backed with some cash from Dad, Irving bought 150 feet of wire from J. H. Bunnell in New York City. A long established source of telegraphy equipment, Bunnell probably had seen few if any customers show up looking for wireless supplies at this point.⁽⁴⁾

Using a crude, uninsulated, multi-wire antenna on a wooden frame and following Marconi's instructions, Irving assembled a receiving station. Excited and overconfident, he invited all his neighbors in to witness his reception of Marconi's signals.

Without tuning ability, a technology yet to be widely adopted, adjusting the length of the antenna wire was the only way to select a wavelength. Most large transmitters at this time operated at wavelengths in the neighborhood of 10,000 meters (a frequency of 30,000 cycles per second as expressed at that time, and in units of hertz many years later). Since his antenna was only 12 feet long he heard nothing.

His embarrassing failure was quite public. Over the course of several hours of silence, his audience went from commenting how "wonderful it was," and "what a bright boy Irving is," to "I don't believe there is any such thing as wireless telegraphy."

Undeterred, Vermilya and a group of friends hooked up a private telegraph line between their houses powered by batteries in his basement, and used this system to converse in code and hone their skills. As they built their network they reached a point, with 36 "stations" in the loop, where the batteries were just not sufficient to power it all. To satisfy the new demand he secretly tapped into the power mains atop a telephone pole, hiding the connection from everyone including most of his telegraph group, which included his cousin, the city electrician.

Two years later, with a proper, much longer antenna and some new equipment supplied once again by his minister, Vermilya began to hear signals from the Marconi stations and some ships. But having never learned and used Continental Morse in his local group, he could not understand what they were sending. In 1904 there were as yet only a few amateurs, if any, transmitting signals.

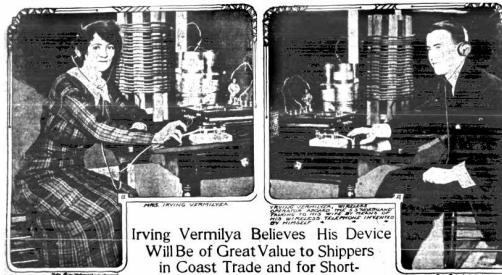
As the years went by, one by one, new acquaintances began to show up on the air, each using a two-letter identifier called a sine—Irving's was VN, probably short for Van, his nickname. A friendly competition with another enthusiast, George Cannon, located a few blocks away in Mt. Vernon, escalated in stages until both of them were operating 5 kW spark stations. VN's setup consisted of a Clapp-Eastham transformer pulling 53 amps from the 110-volt power line and a home built rotary spark gap driven by a 250-volt DC motor which, he claimed, he "just hurried ... along a bit by putting 550 volts on it, which somehow or other mysteriously leaked off a trolley wire into my radio shack."⁽⁵⁾

The two amateurs started a war of sorts with the operators at the Brooklyn Navy Yard (using sine PT) and the United Wireless commercial station (sine NY) in New York, vying for time on the airwaves. No regulations yet existed to give priority to anyone in particular.

Hughes, the operator at United Wireless, while annoyed, was also impressed with the teenager's skill, and eventually offered him a job as a ship's wireless operator, at least in part to silence his 5-kW spark. Vermilya eagerly accepted the offer—the beginning of a long career as both amateur and professional.

This progression, driven by undamped enthusiasm, would become a pattern often repeated.

AR de W2PA

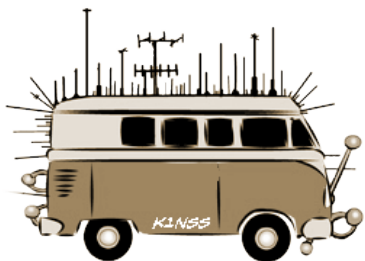


Irving Vermilya Believes His Device Will Be of Great Value to Shippers in Coast Trade and for Short-Distance Conversation.

- (1) With some notable exceptions to come later.
- (2) Irving Vermilya, "Amateur Number One," *QST*, February 1917, 8., March 1917, 10.
- (3) Talk on Wireless Telegraphy, *The New York Times*, May 19, 1901.
- (4) That would all change over the next decade or so and Bunnell would become a major advertiser in *QST*.
- (5) Irving Vermilya, "The 'BD' Mystery," *Radio Communications by the Amateurs*, *QST*, April, 1921, 59.

(Coming next month: The First Regulations)

Got My License, Now What?



Amateur radio offers many opportunities to communicate. VHF/UHF radios are inexpensive and a great way to get on the air locally. After a while, your ham radio interest may venture to high frequency (HF) operating.

HF has the capability of world-wide point to point communication. But in today's society with HOAs, government zoning regulations and the high cost of setting up an HF station many hams never experience the excitement of HF. There are other options. Club stations are one. Another is operating remotely.

What is the value of a club station? What is possible?

Large or small, fancy or simple, remote or direct operation or both, club stations can unite members and deliver a strong signal world wide for everyone. There are well over 2,000 listed HF club stations around the world. We will take a look at just a few of the amazing club stations. In a later article we will ask the question "What are the advantages of a remote club station?" For now, let's enjoy what others around the world have done.

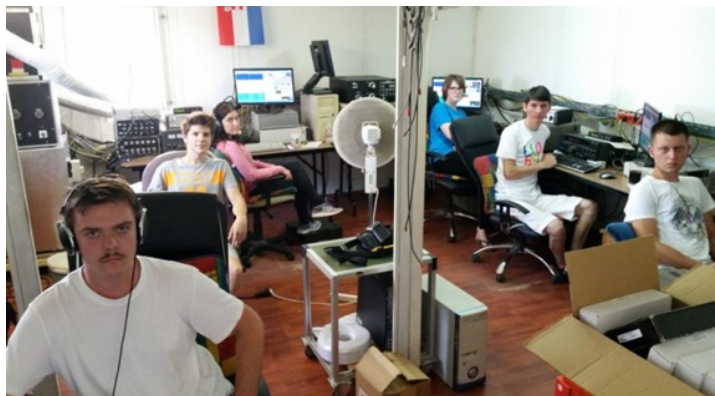
Many stations are from poor or low economic areas. That tells us that this can be done on any budget. Others have found that a club station generates new and growing membership. A true "WIN – WIN" for the young and old ham alike.

With a club station, the young or new hams have something to look forward to. Here are a few examples. Links are provided for more information.

Club station 9A1A in Croatia: <https://www.qrz.com/db/9a1a>



(9A1A club members)



(9A1A clubhouse)

Yavapai Amateur Radio Club Station – W7YRC

<https://www.qrz.com/db/W7YRC>



(W7YRC operating station)

W9VW, DX and Contesting, LLC, Indianapolis, IN

<https://www.qrz.com/db/W9VW>



(W9VW antenna farm)

(continued on page 7)

Got My License, Now What?

(continued from page 6)

Kennedy Space Center Amateur Radio Station

<https://www.n1ksc.org/>



(Operating station #1)

What are the pros and cons of a remote HF club station?

First the Pro's

- . Lower cost than everyone putting up his own tower or station
- . Non-stop 24 hour 7 day HF activity
- . Grow the club membership
- . Remote club station allows you to operate it from home
- . Great for both novices and expert hams alike.
- . Antennas are somewhere else, not in your back yard
- . Solves HOA – POA - XYL problems
- . Improved station capabilities from joint members
- . Give new hams something to look forward to
- . Gives non-hams a reason to get licensed
- . Gives the seasoned ham the new DX opportunities he has been looking for.
- . Opportunity to work that rare DXpedition
- . Enjoy your hamming more. Something for everyone
- . Great place to run club nets, HF does it all.
- . Great place for membership meetings and contest operations.
- . Joint project unites local hams and makes new friends.
- . Learn the science of HF and the science of the build.
- . Join the station effort and learn how to build.

Now the Cons

Help me out with this. I can't think of any reasons a club

would not want to have a club station. Is it the soil or water in some areas that seems to make clubs reluctant to build a club station? I don't think so.

I guess I will need to leave the cons to the "glass half empty" folks to come up with the reasons.

We value your input. Tell us your thoughts. Does a remote HF club station solve your ham radio station problems? Is this something that you would like to see happen? Share you ideas in an email to [Bruce, W8HW](mailto:Bruce.W8HW).

Alternately, send your email to tchamnews@gmail.com. We will forward it to Bruce.

The moment is now, send your email today. This moment may never come again.

A survey will be coming soon asking for your opinions and ideas about remote stations. Be sure to respond.

73, Bruce, W8HW

New Prefix Proposed for British Antarctic Territory



A consultation now in play would permit issuance of amateur radio licenses in the British Antarctic Territory (BAT).

The proposal follows several months of protracted negotiations involving the UK communications regulator OFCOM, the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator, and the governments of the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) and the British Antarctic Territory.

The new prefix of VPØ would be applied to British Antarctic Territory stations. The existing VP8 prefix would then apply exclusively to the Falkland Islands. It's proposed that the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator will administer these licenses.

The VPØ prefix would apply in the British-claimed sector of the Antarctic mainland, including the Antarctic Peninsula and nearby islands, such as the South Orkney Islands, South Shetland Islands, and the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

(from the ARRL Letter)

Upcoming Hamfests

FLORIDA

12/04/2021- **Treasure Coast Hamfest CANCELLED**

Location: Indian River Fairgrounds
 Sponsor: Vero Beach ARC
 Website: <https://www.treasurecoasthamfest.com/>

02/10/2022 - 02/13/2022 **Orlando HamCation, 2022 ARRL National Convention**

Location: Orlando, FL
 Sponsor: Orlando ARC
 Website: <https://www.hamcation.com> and <http://www.arrl.org/expo>

03/19/2022 - **47th Annual Martin Co. HamFest, ARRL South Florida Section Convention**

Location: Stuart , FL
 Sponsor: Martin County Amateur Radio Association (MCARA)
 Website: <http://stuarthamfest.com>

TAMPA BAY HAMFEST DECEMBER 10-11, 2021

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.

The Tampa Bay Hamfest will be held at the Strawberry Festival facilities, 301 BerryFest Street, Plant City. It will open at 1:00 PM Friday, December 10th, 2021 and again on Saturday, December 11th, 2021 at 8:00 AM. The Tampa Bay Hamfest is the West Central Florida Section Convention of the ARRL. The ARRL will have representatives available to answer any questions you may have.

Exhibits and commercial vendors will be located in the Expo Hall. The general public parking and the only entrance is at the intersection of BerryFest Street and West Palmetto Avenue. The Tailgate area will be the large grassy field adjacent to the Carriage House. All testing and related functions will be in the Armory building.

Tickets: Everyone (over 12 years old) inside the Hamfest area must have a ticket. All selling vehicles inside the tailgate area must display a dashboard Tailgate Placard.

Parking: All visitor parking is in the main parking lot.

Please go to: <https://fgcarc.org/general-information/> for more information.

Ham Radio Trivia

Answer to last month's question:

Last month's question focused on operating knowledge. The subject was Q-codes, which we know provide a brief way to convey a longer word / phrase or thought. For example, QSL can mean "Did you copy?" or "I copied you" depending on context of the conversation.

October Trivia Question

Question:
 Which of the following is not an official Q-code?

- A. QRA
- B. QRB
- C. QRY
- D. QWK

The correct answer is "D." This was a tough question. Choices A, B and C are obscure and don't show up on many q-code reference lists. A complete list of all international Q-codes is available here: [International Q-codes](#).

December Trivia Question

This month's question features a little known ham famous for a certain achievement.

Question:

Amateur licensee Dr. Owen Garriott, W5LFL, is famous for what accomplishment? (No fair looking him up on the internet!)

- A. First amateur QSO from a submerged nuclear submarine in 1965.
- B. First amateur QSO from atop Mount Everest in 2002.
- C. First amateur QSO from space in 1983.
- D. First (and only) American to QSO from North Korea in 1958.

(We will reveal the answer next month.)
 (Know a good trivia question? Send it to us at: tchamnews@gmail.com.)

"Brush up on your radio knowledge, skills and trivia."

2021 QRP-ARCI HOLIDAY SPIRITS HOMEBREW SPRINT

Happy Holidays



A popular short contest which encourages homebrewers to put their rigs on the air. Bonus points for homebrew receivers, transmitters and transceivers. Extra bonus for those operating from a portable location. Bonus points can be claimed for equipment built from kits where individual components are soldered. Kits assembled from pre-built modules are not eligible for bonus points.

DATE/TIME: 2000Z to 2300 on 12 December 2021

MODE: HF CW Only.

EXCHANGE:

Members send RST, State/Province/Country, ARCI member number.

Non-Members send: RST, State/Province/Country, Power Out.

QSO POINTS:

Member = 5 points

Non-Member, Different Continent = 4 points

Non-Member, Same Continent = 2 points

MULTIPLIER: SPC (State/Province/Country) total for all bands. The same station may be worked on multiple bands for QSO points and SPC credit.

POWER MULTIPLIER:

>5 Watts = x1

>1 - 5 Watts = x7

>250 mW - 1 Watt = x10

>55 mW - 250 mW = x15

55 mW or less = x20

SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES:

160m 1810 kHz

80m 3560 kHz

40m 7030 kHz (please listen at 7040 kHz and 7100 to 7125 kHz for rock bound participants)

20m 14060 kHz

15m 21060 kHz

10m 28060 kHz

SCORE: Final Score = Points (total for all bands) x SPCs (total for all bands) x Power Multiplier + Bonus Points.

BONUS POINTS:

If operating a HB Transmitter add 2000 points per band

If operating a HB Receiver add 3000 points per band

If operating a HB Transceiver add 5000 points per band

(Homebrew (HB) is defined as: if you built it, it is homebrew.

(Kits too! However, "kits" means those that you soldered components to the board(s). An Elecraft K-3, for instance, does not qualify as a "kit.")

If you are operating PORTABLE using battery power AND a temporary antenna, add 5000 points to your final score. You can NOT be at your shack operating from battery power using your home station antenna to qualify for this bonus; this is to help level the playing field for contesters who work from the

field against contest stations with 5 element yagis at 70 ft.

CATEGORIES:

Entry may be All-Band (AB), Single Band (e.g., SB-160, 80,40,20,15 or 10), High Bands - (HB-10m, 15m and 20m) or Low Bands - (LB-40m, 80m and 160m)

ANTENNAS:

Entry may be A1 or A2

A1: Single Element Antenna

If you are using a single element antenna such as a dipole, inverted V, loop, or a vertical you can enter the A1 category. (Note that with a vertical you can have as many radials as you want but only one "vertical" element.)

A2: Multiple Element Antenna

If you are using a multi-element beam, vertical array, or any antenna that has more than one driven element or uses reflective or directive elements you are in the A2 category.



Unfortunately, we have no updates to report concerning the 2x4 DX Group.

Treasure Coast Ham News continues to receive emails from hams around the region asking when meetings might resume.

Group leaders tell us they are ready to restart meetings. Unfortunately, the old meeting facility no longer available; and they've had no success to date in finding a new location where the group can meet once or twice a month.

If you know of a location where the group can meet, please let us know. We are also interested in your opinion as to the best time and day of week to hold in-person meetings? Share your ideas, thoughts and opinions about restarting the 2X4 DX Group by sending and email to us at tchamnews@gmail.com, with the subject: 2x4 DX.

Help us get the 2x4 DX Group reactivated! Please consider joining the group. All are always welcome. No one is ever considered a visitor.

With Solar Cycle 25 starting to come alive, DXing excitement is building. Watch these pages for further announcements.



Dear Santa: We made a list of ham radio vendors to help you find gifts for our hams. Hope it helps.

HF, VHF, & UHF Transceivers

[Alinco Electronics, Inc.](#)
[Anytone Radio](#) (VHF/UHF)
[BTECH \(BaoFeng\)](#) (VHF/UHF)
[Elecraft](#)
[FlexRadio](#)
[Icom America, Inc.](#)
[Kenwood](#)
[Leixen Radios](#) (VHF/UHF)
[QYT Mobile radio](#) (VHF/UHF)
[Radioditty](#)
[Yaesu U.S.A.](#)

QRP Transceivers

[Elecraft](#)
[Pacific Radio/QRpKits](#)
[MFJ Enterprises](#)
[QRPLabs](#)
[SGC](#)
[uBITx](#)
[Xiegu](#) (Many vendors sell)

Amplifiers

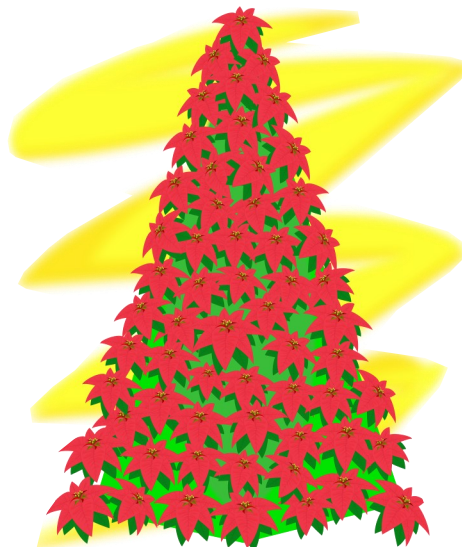
[Alpha RF Power Inc.](#)
[Acom](#)
[Ameritron](#)
[Henry Radio](#)
[Icom America, Inc.](#)
[Elecraft](#)
[Expert Linears](#)
[FlexRadio](#)
[Icom America, Inc.](#)
[Mirage](#) (VHF/UHF)
[Xforce Amplifiers](#)
[Yaesu](#)

Antennas, Tuners, Towers, Rotators

[Alpha Delta](#)
[Aluma Tower](#)
[Antennas & More](#)
[Balun Designs](#)
[B&W Antennas](#)

Comet Antenna

[Cushcraft Antennas](#)
[Diamond Antenna](#)
[DX Engineering](#)
[Hustler Antennas](#)
[Hy-Gain Antennas](#)
[Jetstream](#)
[JK Antennas](#)
[JR Engineering Corp](#) (Rotators)
[Larsen Amateur antennas](#)
[LDG Electronics](#) (Tuners)
[M2 Antennas](#)
[MFJ Enterprises](#)



Mosley Electronics

[Multi-band antennas by KIJEK](#)
[Outbacker](#)
[Palstar Tuners](#)
[RigExpert](#) (Antenna analyzers)
[Rohn](#) (Towers)
[SGC](#) (Tuners, Antennas)
[Sommer Antennas](#)
[SteppIR](#)
[Texas Towers](#)
[Universal Towers](#)
[US Tower](#)

Paddles & Keys

[Begali Keys](#)
[Bencher](#)
[CW Morse LLC](#)
[Kent Morse Keys](#)
[MFJ](#)
[N3ZN Keys](#)
[Vibroplex](#)
[Whiterock Mini Paddles](#)

Logging Software

[DX 4 Win](#)
[DXKeeper](#)
[DXtreme logging software](#)
[DXLab Launcher](#)
[Easylog](#)
[Field Day Logging Program](#)
[Ham Radio Deluxe](#)
[KLog](#)
[N1MM Free Contest Logger](#)
[N3FJP](#)

CW Software

[Code Quick](#)
[CwGet and CwType](#)
[CW Teacher](#)
[Just Learn Morse Code](#)
[Morse Code Ninja](#)
[Morse Free](#)

Special Items

[ARRL](#)
[EZ Hang](#)
[Kantronics](#)
[Polyphaser](#)
[QRZ](#)
[Raspberry PI Starter Kits](#)
[SDR-Kits](#)
[Tigertronics](#)
[Timewave](#)
[The Wireman](#)

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.

December 2021

November '21							January '22						
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					23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			SLC ARES Net-7:30pm 147.240(+) (107.2) Winlink Checkin send to W4ISZ	Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2)		TREASURE COAST HAMFEST CANCELLED
5 TC R/T Net-8:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	6 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2) MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm 145.500(-) (107.2)	7 IRC ARES Net-7:30pm 145.130(-) (107.2) FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm 147.35(+) (107.2) D-Star Net-8:30pm 444.500(+5) Port B	8 FPARC Mtg-7:30pm No meeting	9 PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) VBARC Mtg-7:30pm 4325 43rd Av Vero Bch MCARA ARES Mtg-7:00pm 800 SE Monterey, Stuart		11 MCARA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON 1pm-4pm Twisted Tuna SE Salerno Rd, Stuart
12 TC R/T Net-8:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	13 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2) MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm 145.500(-) (107.2)	14 IRC ARES Net-7:30pm 145.130(-) (107.2) FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm 147.35(+) (107.2) D-Star Net-8:30pm 444.500(+5) Port B	15 SLC ARES Mtg-7:30pm No meeting	16 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) MCARA Mtg-7:00pm 830 Martin L. King Blvd PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2)		18
19 TC R/T Net-8:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	20 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2) MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm 145.500(-) (107.2)	21 IRC ARES Net-7:30pm 145.130(-) (107.2) FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm 147.35(+) (107.2) D-Star Net-8:30pm 444.500(+5) Port B	22 PSLARA Mtg-7:30pm No meeting	23 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2)	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas
26 TC R/T Net 146.775(-) (107.2) SKYWARN Net-9:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2)	27 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm 146.775(-) (107.2) MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm 145.500(-) (107.2)	28 IRC ARES Net-7:30pm 145.130(-) (107.2) FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm 147.35(+) (107.2) D-Star Net-8:30pm 444.500(+5) Port B	29	30 Slow CW Net-6:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2) PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm 146.995(-) (107.2)	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day
2	3	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/) VBARC: Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club (http://www.w4ot.com/)			R/T: Ragchew/Traders Emer.: Emergency	

The Frugal Ham Radio Operator

Mobile radios are the Swiss Army Knives of ham radio. My first mobile was a Atlas 215 with the outboard digital display. Picked up it up at the Stuart hamfest for \$125. Not a small radio, but it worked... well sort of.

My next mobile was a Uniden HR-2510. 10 meters was hot and the 25 watt radio played great. Worked worldwide DX including Albania from a Home Depot parking lot just after the country opened up ham radio again.

My first two mobiles were not new in keeping with my frugal ways; but for my third mobile, I bought a new Icom IC-706. It had many nice features, but left much to be desired for HF. A narrow SSB filter offered limited improvement. The best solution was a JPS Communications NIR10 DSP filter. Just about every HF radio produced today has some flavor of built-in DSP. For those that do not, the NIR-10 is still an outstanding performer. Working mobile generally requires an antenna matcher. So I added an LDG AT-11 auto tuner I built. It was a sad day when the RF power transistors gave out and I was told it could not be repaired. Still have the control head, but the main unit is in ham radio heaven or maybe somebody's toaster.

My final mobile radio was a Yaesu FT-857D. Ended up not using it for mobile. Worked great for digital modes.

At a hamfest in Roanoke, Va. I won a Yaesu FT-7900R. The radio is compact and makes an outstanding mobile

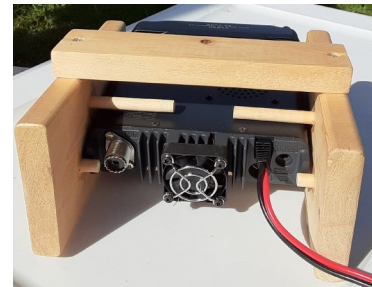
rig. Mine had an additional role as a VHF/UHF base station. Sitting on a desk is ok, but the bottom case can get very warm, even with the rear fan whizzing along.



One afternoon it dawned on me a mount could be built from wood. I used a couple pieces of 1"x4" and a 5/16" dowels.

While not absolutely necessary, I added a piece of 1"x2" across the top to help stabilize the 1"x4" wood. The 1"x2" also

adds a simple carrying handle. The dowels were placed to provide a comfortable viewing angle for the radio's display and glued into the sides. Dowels were also glued to the back sides to stop the radio from sliding out.



If you sometimes use a mobile as a base station and need a mount, try something like I did. It works great!

73, [The Frugal Ham](#)

Short Takes

Old Amateur Radio Call Books 1906 -1997 <https://leehite.org/callbooks/>

Antenna Tuners, Impedance Matching, and SWR <https://www.ad5gg.com/2018/04/02/antenna-tuners-matching-and-swr/>

Old QSL Cards <http://oldqslcards.com/>

CWTY decoder/encoder application <http://www.hotamateurprograms.com/downloads.htm>

ADIF to Map Amateur Ham Radio Contacts by K2DSL <https://www.levinecentral.com/adif2map/>

Minutes of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Administrative Committee meeting of 7-9 October 2021 are online. [IARU Meeting Minutes](#)

IARU Welcomes new member countries Kyrgyzstan and Bahrain. [IARU New Members](#)

Google Groups

Software Controlled Ham Radio <https://groups.io/g/SoftwareControlledHamRadio>

Tiny Spectrum Analyzer <https://groups.io/g/tinysa>

QRPLabs QCX/QSX Transceivers <https://groups.io/g/QRPLabs>

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

2021 National Hurricane Conference Virtual Amateur Radio Workshop ([YouTube](#))

The following workshop topics are available on [YouTube](#). Opening remarks; Canadian Hurricane Center; Hurricane Meteorological Topics; NHC Importance of Surface Reports; VoIP Hurricane Net Overview; Best Practices in SKYWARN for Tropical Systems; WX4NHC National Hurricane Center Overview; HWN Overview; SATERN; ARRL Update; and Q&A with Panel

Treasure Coast Ham Doctors

FT8 for the Visually Impaired



Question: I have a ham friend who is visually impaired. He would like to operate the newer FT8 and FT4 modes, but finds the available software packages are just not useable for a person with restricted visual acuity. Can you offer any suggestions?

Answer: I can easily understand how a visually impaired operator would find the current software packages less than friendly. Screen displays are busy and refresh every 15 seconds (7.5 seconds in FT4 mode). Even with a large monitor following the action would be challenging for someone visually impaired.

I stumbled on a possible solution to the problem because of my habit of checking a contact's QRZ.com page after every QSO I complete. After a recent QSO with Richard Zwirko, KIHTV, I found an amazing story on his QRZ page that may be the answer to your friend's challenge.

It seems Richard was involved in developing an application to make the modern digital operating modes useable by the visually impaired. For his efforts Richard was awarded the E. T. Krengel Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Radio. Here's the story from Richard's QRZ page.

"In 2017, soon after FT8 was introduced, it quickly became the most popular new digital mode. Within a year, a few of my blind Ham friends contacted me, asking if there would be any way that they could start using the new FT8 mode. I posed a question on the WSJT-X Development Group reflector, asking if anyone would be interested in writing software that could help visually impaired and blind Hams use the WSJT-X software.

I received a reply from Sam Birnbaum, W2JDB, who had retired after a 40-year career of software development work for various Wall Street financial firms. Sam had already created a logging program that he called Quick Log or QLog, for short, which had already been interfaced directly to WSJT-X. Sam emailed me and volunteered to add text to speech in his program for interfacing to WSJT-X.

So began a multi-year effort to give visually impaired Radio Amateurs the same functionality that a sighted Ham has when using WSJT-X. In early 2019 the QLog Beta Tester Group was created. It started with Sam (W2JDB), me (KIHTV) and six brave blind hams who took on the task of beta testing and debugging the QLog program.

By December 2019, visually impaired Hams could now reply to filtered CQ calls, change bands, change modes, find an open slot in the band pass and call CQ. They could now use WSJT-X and participate in special operations such as Field Day, RTTY Roundup, Fox and Hounds (as hound) as well as NA and EU VHF contests without relying on a screen reader.

The QLog Beta Testers Group continues to meet weekly via Zoom to discuss how to further enhance QLog and other support software. These programs continue to be developed for visually impaired Hams using the WSJT-X digital modes.

If interested in helping a visually impaired Ham friend to start operating the FT8, FT4 and MSK144 digital modes, check out and join the [QLogusers@groups.io users group](mailto:QLogusers@groups.io). In the Files section you will find QLog and a number of other support programs along with their documentation, which can be downloaded."

(editor's note: You must join the group to download files. Membership is free.)

73, [The Doctors](#)

FT8 / WSJT-X Operating Tip

Buggy Operation of Auto Sequence Feature

Pay close attention when you have the Auto Seq option checked on the main WSJT-X operating screen.

Imagine you are in a QSO and have received a signal report (ex. -09) from the other station. You reply with your signal report (ex. R-06). But instead of the next message from the other station being the expected RR73, the station repeats his signal report (ex. -09).

That's normally not a problem because the Auto Seq feature recognizes the message just received and will resend the R-06. This sequence will repeat until the expected RR73 reply is received.

But, should any other station send a message within the frequency area where your contact is working (indicated by the green marker on the waterfall display), it will cause your next transmission to reset to CQ instead of the intended RR73.

Send questions or tips to tchamnews@gmail.com.



[Last month we talked antenna types, RF power output, feedline impedance and antenna tuners. This month we continue with how remote antenna tuners might actually be a good thing.]

Ramblings of an Antenna Alchemist

I was a Novice in the late 60s. My home-brew 813 transmitter was a thing of beauty. One of my Elmers spent real effort designing and building the crystal controlled transmitter. Tuning the transmitter was a two step process. I used a 75 watt incandescent light bulb for initial tuning. After getting the bulb semi-bright I changed to my antenna and performed final tune up. My antenna was not resonant. Far from it, but somehow the transmitter worked. How much power was being propagated? Not much, I bet. If I had taken the time to learn about transmitter, feed line and antenna matching, I would have known the answer. That came later.

Today, ham radio transceivers have a nominal 50-ohm resistive output for use with unbalanced coaxial line like LMR400, RG-8, RG-8X, RG-58, etc. Coaxial line plays very well with a 50 ohm resonant antenna. Of course achieving resonance is not always easy and what if you intend to use a single band dipole for multi-band. Balanced window line and impedance transformation may be necessary. Vendors know all about our antenna problems. They offer antennas replete with hi-impedance parallel resonant traps, tuning stubs, capacity hats, and fixed toroid matching transformers. A 1/4 wavelength of coax is also used to help achieve resonance for some antennas. Another approach is the ubiquitous antenna tuner. Tuners can create 50 ohm transmission line matches using a wide variety of impedances from non-resonant antennas.

Hams work hard to make antennas resonant, but environmental circumstances or maybe just wanting antennas to do more can lead to problems not always easily resolved. That may be the point of entry for tuner usage. They are simple to implement and make the transceiver happy with VSWR of 1:1.

An antenna tuner is typically found either inside a transceiver or attached to the transceiver's SO-239 via a short piece of coax cable. Would it not be better to place the tuner on the antenna side? On the transmitter side the

tuner makes the match look perfect to the radio, but has anything changed with respect to the antenna. Not much, I suspect.



A tuner on the antenna side may make better sense. A tuned antenna will exhibit higher efficiency, reduce VSWR and minimize coaxial cable losses. Interested in verifying any benefits?

The easiest way might be to buy a remote tuner. These tuners are not cheap starting at \$250, but they are weatherized and use bias tee to send DC voltage to the tuner.

Maybe you want to try before you buy? Here's what I might suggest. Find an automatic tuner. You may already have one in your shack or know of one you can borrow for testing. The tuner will need DC power. A 12VDC battery should work. Pick a dry day, install and try. Now that is simple, right?



If you get good results but still don't want to buy a remote tuner, use a little ingenuity and try weatherizing what you have. This ham used a plastic box from your neighborhood big box store.

There are other sources for boxes, such as eBay. A local source is Harbor Freight. Their plastic ammo box looks interesting and costs less than \$10 dollars.



If you try a tuner on the antenna side, please let us know your results.

We all can learn by sharing with others.

73, [The Antenna Alchemist](#)





Does a Solar Storm Black Out HF? A Myth Examined

You see and hear more and more comments on the internet and repeaters from hams talking about HF Blackouts. Is it a case of myths traveling faster than truth, or do blackouts really occur? Let's take a look.

Solar flare-ups: Are they good or bad for propagation? The answer is both. While it is true that during the first few hours or days of a flare-up conditions can suffer somewhat, that is not the whole story. The bands DO NOT go dead. And the over-all results of increased sun activity is positive. Let's break it down for you.

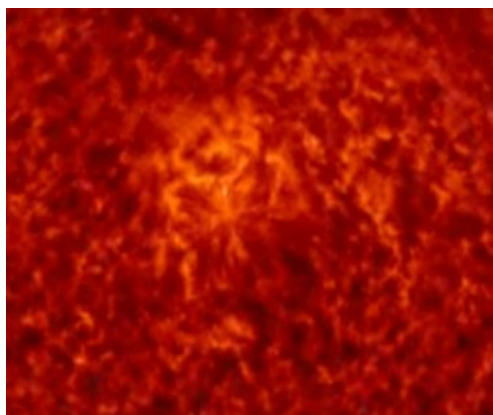
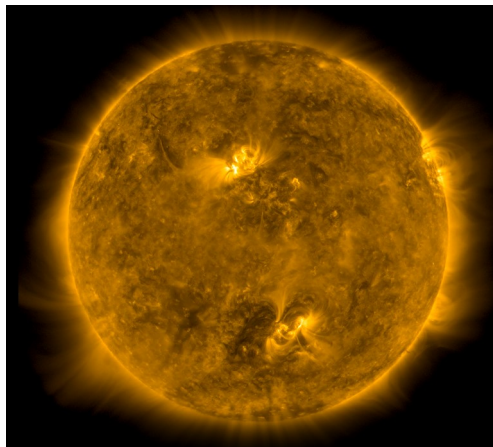
HF bands may suffer, but they never go into a blackout condition. In my 60 plus years of broadcasting, professional, 2-way and amateur radio, I have never seen a total blackout on HF. Yes, some hams have reported inability to communicate during the (so called) blackouts while other hams have been able to communicate world wide. So What makes the difference? Read on for the answers.

Tougher choices must be made by a ham radio operator during the worst of times. I can't stress that statement enough. It is also true that HF communications (world wide) have always been available during the worst of times as well as during the best of times.

Remember, even during the worst of conditions a proper band and antenna choice will get your signal to anyplace in the world when needed. So what are the tough choices

and how do we make them? Let's look at both sides of this coin (good and bad conditions).

Great solar conditions usually make choices easier as more of the HF bands are open and they are open extended hours both day and night. Additionally, potentially all HF bands may be open to larger and wider areas (world wide).



During poor solar conditions your preferred HF band may not be useable, but the reality is that not all HF bands are dead. You will be required to make tougher band and antenna choices; but to be clear, good choices will allow you to communicate to any-place, anywhere and at anytime you want.

Most of the time your choices involve moving to higher bands. For example, often (but not always) moving to a higher band, such as 17 - 6 meters, can be a smart choice. But occasionally, moving to a lower band will be the better choice. Selecting the correct band and antenna is where patience, knowledge and experience can help. It sounds complicated, but it is not.

How about during the absolute worst conditions? The best way to explain this is with an example.

The first few days of November, 2021 were reported as dead by many hams. The cause was a CME (Coronal Mass Eject-

(continued on page 16)

Photos from
<https://spaceweathernews.com/>



(continued from page 15)

tion). Just for the fun of it, I fired up my radio at low power during the worst of the CME. I was able to make CW contacts at an average rate of one contact per minute for several hours.

I recorded a small part of my activity during the CME and it makes good CW practice for anyone who wishes a copy. Just drop me an email at w8hw@comcast.net. This point is important: HF bands are never dead even under the worst of conditions. It is only a question of choices.

It is not your fault if you do not understand how to make these choices during both the good and the bad solar times. The problem is the lack of guidance given to newer HF hams.

HF propagation is a topic that is poorly understood today and yet it is our most powerful tool. Without this knowledge you are likely to report a dead station or dead bands. Again, it is not your fault. We, as older hams can - and should do - a better job in providing this information.

So how do you make the tough choices? Articles in this newsletter and other publications can help. In past issues of *Treasure Coast Ham News* I've presented a series of articles on exactly these types of issues. We discussed methods for making better band selections and better antenna choices. We showed you ways to make small improvements to your antennas that will maximize their performance. We also discussed the importance of understanding HF propagation.

(editor's note: Back issues of Treasure Coast Ham News containing all of Bruce's articles are archived at

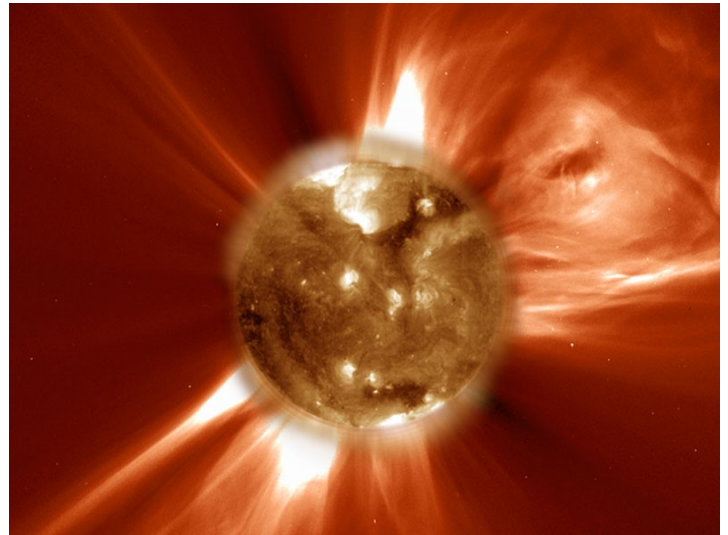
www.pslara.org. From the left side menu select "Pub Documents," then scroll down to Ham Newsletters.)

Radio clubs can also answer antenna questions and provide additional information that can help you make better HF choices. Speak up at club meetings and activities. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

73, Bruce, W8HW

You can contact Bruce directly at w8hw@comcast.net.

Comments about the article? Send them to: tchamnews@gmail.com



A dramatic photo of a Coronal Mass Ejection (NASA photo)

⇒ Don't buy it... Build it... Learn how it works... ⇐

Talking to the world



73
Bruce
W8HW

HF - No relay systems - Transmitting direct antenna to antenna





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

DX OPPORTUNITIES

BHUTAN, A5. Peter, HB9DVG is QRV as A52CC from Phodrang until December 21 while on work assignment. Activity is on his spare time on the HF bands using SSB and FT8. QSL via N4GNR.

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS. Lee, DS4NMJ is QRV as DT8A as part of a scientific team on the King Se-Jong Korean Antarctic Base on King George Island, IOTA AN-010, until December 31. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via DS5TOS.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Alan, G3XAQ will be active as C56XA from November 24 to December 2. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using only CW.

BAHAMAS, C6. Brian, ND3F is QRV as C6AQQ from New Providence Island, IOTA NA-001, until December 7. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via EA5GL.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. Operators Tom, DL7BO and Tom, DJ6TF will be QRV as Z22O and Z21A, respectively, from Harare from December 2 to 15. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4. QSL both calls via DJ6TF and Ukraine stations via UY5ZZ.

UGANDA, 5X. John Paul, KN6NNF is QRV as 5X3Z from Kubamitwe. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using FT8. QSL via LoTW.

ANGOLA, D2. Mikalai, UT6UY is QRV as D2UY from Cabinda for a few months. Activity is on 20, 15, and 10 meters using mostly CW, generally between 1600 to 2300z. QSL via operator's instructions.

UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS, ZC4. Garry, 2M1DHG is QRV as ZC4GR until December 31. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via EB7DX.

ANTARCTICA. Sebastian, SQ1SQB is QRV as VP8/SQ1SQB while working on the Halley VIa Base until the end of January 2022. Activity is in his spare time on 40 meters using SSB. QSL via EB7DX.

DX SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

INDONESIA, YB. Special event stations 8H13H, 8H13U, 8H13T, 8G13T, 8G13A, 8G13N, 8G13G, 8G13S, 8G13E, and 8G13L will be QRV from November 26 to December 12 to commemorate the 13th anniversary of South Tangerang City. Activity will be on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.

JAPAN, JA. Members of the radio club in the city of Tama are QRV as 8NITAMA until the end of June 2022 to mark their city's 50th anniversary. Activity is on 160 meters to 70 centimeters using CW, SSB and FM. QSL via bureau.

SERBIA, YU. Members of the Amateur Radio Club Novi Sad celebrate their city's status as European Capital of Culture 2022 with the call sign YU2022NS until December 30. QSL via YU7BPQ.

ARGENTINA, LU. Special event station L2IRCA is QRV until the end of 2021 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Radio Club Argentina. QSL via LU4AA.

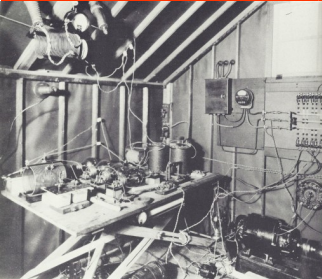
BELGIUM, ON. Special event stations ON75AF, ON75BAF and ON75BFS are QRV until the end of 2021 to draw attention to the 75th anniversary of the Belgian Air Force. QSL via operators' instructions.

POLAND, SP. Members of club station SP4PZM are QRV with special event call SO39SYBIR until Feb 2022 to mark the opening of the Sybir Memorial Museum in Bialystok. Activity on HF bands using CW, SSB, and digital modes. QSL via SP4PZM.

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



Special Event Stations



Transatlantic Tests of 1921 - IBCG Replica Transmitter

Dec 11-Dec 12, 2300Z-0400Z, W2AN/IBCG, Windsor, CT Antique Wireless Assoc. & Vintage Radio & Communications Museum of Connecticut. 1.820 MHz. Certificate: Edward M Gable, 187 Light-house Rd., Hilton, NY 14468. The IBCG replica transmitter will operate as W2AN/IBCG on 1.820 MHz, +/- using CW.

Transmissions will be one-way, like original 1921 transatlantic tests. For SWL certificate send copy of transmitted message to BCG@AntiqueWireless.org

Transmissions start December 11, 2021, on 1.820 mhz, +/-, at 1800 EST (2300 UTC) & every 15 minutes thereafter for a total of five hours with last transmission at 2245 .EST.

More info: IBCG.org

Readers: Tell us about your special event QSOs. We will publish in a future edition. Please submit info to: tchamnews@gmail.com

W9CAP Celebrates the 80th Anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol

Dec 4-Dec 5, 1500Z-2300Z, W9CAP, Saint Charles, IL. Illinois Wing Civil Air Patrol Amateur Radio Club. 28.450, 18.125, 14.250, 7.225. QSL: Lt Col Robert Becker, P.O. Box 4027, Saint Charles, IL 60174. www.qrz.com/db/w9cap

Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration

Dec 3-Dec 13, 1300Z-2200Z, W2W, Baltimore, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum. 14.241, 14.041, 7.241, 7.041. Certificate & QSL: W2W-Pearl Harbor, P.O. Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. Primary operation Dec 3-Dec 7. Additional operation possible Dec 8-Dec 13. 80M (3.541, 3.841) & digital modes possible. Frequencies +/- based on QRM. QSL & Certificate available via SASE. Details at www-2.us

Remember Pearl Harbor

Dec 4, 1000Z-1600Z, NEIPL, Fall River, MA, USNR. 14.258. QSL: Rick Emord, 135 Wareham St., Middleboro, MA 02346. We'll be on 20m & 40m phone. Other bands & modes possible. www.neipl.org

Christmas in Bethlehem

Dec 4, 1200Z-2359Z, W9WWI, Bethlehem, IN. Clark County ARC of Indiana. 14.240. QSL: W9WWI, P.O. Box 201, Sellersburg, IN 47172. Clark Co. ARC will host Christmas in Bethlehem (Indiana that is). Will operate SSB on HF. Multiple bands. Send requests to CC ARC P.O. Box 201 Sellersburg Indiana. <https://www.facebook.com/W9WWI/> or <https://www.clarkcountync.org>

Commemorating Birth of Clara Barton, Founder of American Red Cross

Dec 4, 1500Z-1900Z, KG4ARC, Atlanta, GA. Atlanta Radio Club & Atlanta Chapter, American Red Cross. 14.250, 7.250, 3.925. QSL: Atlanta Radio Club, 227 S&Y Springs Place, Suite D-306, Atlanta, GA 30328. Special commemorative bi-fold QSL card. Check spotting networks for frequencies. <http://atlantaradioclub.org/redcross> for event updates. Info: secretary@atlantaradioclub.org.

QCWA's 74th Anniversary December 5, 2021

Dec 4-Dec 11, 0001Z-2359Z, W2MM, Apopka, FL. Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). SSB: 28.325, 21.365, 14.262, 7.244, 3.810. CW: 28.050, 21.050, 14.040, 7.035, 3.540. Certificate: QCWA, John R. Kludt, 1972 Martina St., Apopka, FL 32703.

Edwin Howard Armstrong

Dec 17-Dec 19, 0000Z-2359Z, W4A, Bluff City, TN. N9EN. 3.540, 7.040, 14.040, 21.040. QSL: Brad Ambro, 1118 Walnut Grove Road, Bluff City, TN 37618.

Charleston Amateur Radio Society 50th Anniversary

Dec 18, 1700Z-2200Z, WA4USN, Mount Pleasant, SC. Charleston Amateur Radio Society (CARS). 14.296, 7.250, 21.290. Certificate & QSL: William Dean, 30 Lombardi Lane, Hanahan, SC 29410. 50th Anniversary of the Charleston Amateur Radio Society to be broadcast from the USS Yorktown CV10. wa4usn.org

Bethlehem on the Air

Dec 18-Dec 24, 1300Z-2359Z, KC5OUR, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. 21.283, 14.283, 7.183, 3.883. QSL: VCARA, P.O. Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. kc5our@arrl.net

Celebrate Christmas Time & Holiday Cheer through Ham Radio Christmas Train

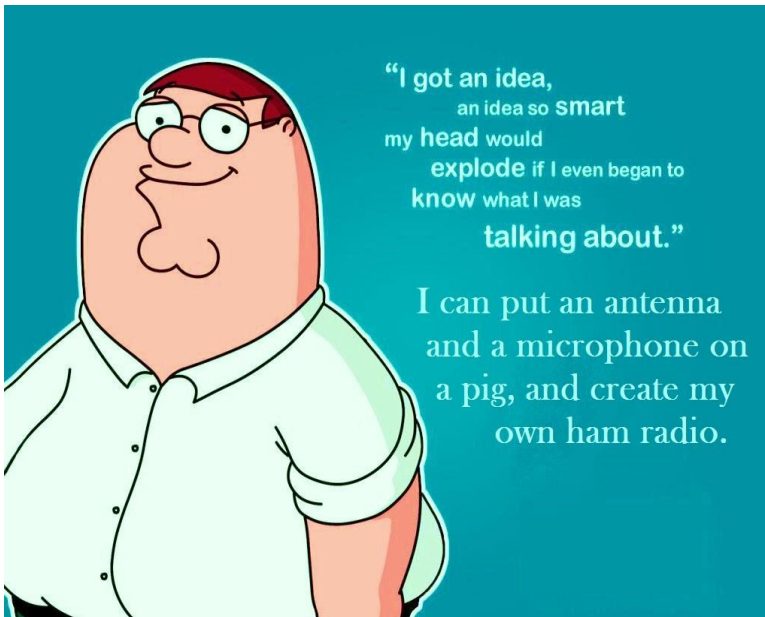
Dec 23-Dec 26, 1500Z-2359Z. N0T, N0R & N0A, Bates City, MO Area Amateurs. 10, 20, 40, 80 meters; operating as time permits. QSL: R&y Booth, 7562 Copenhagen Rd, Bates City, MO 64011. rwb22311@outlook.com

American Revolution Battle of Trenton

Dec 26-Dec 31, 0000Z-2359Z, W2T, Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.250. Certificate & QSL: DVRA, P.O. Box 7024, Trenton, NJ 08628. QSL with SASE. Certificate of Commission in the Continental Army Signal Corps for address label & \$5 payable to DVRA, mailed to DVRA, PO Box 7024, West Trenton NJ 08628. www.qrz.com/db/w2zq or www.w2zq.com.

(From ARRL & other sources)

Ham Humor



HAM RADIO DAFI-NITIONS

S.W.R. -- A term, applied to any part of the antenna system, which means: "Savings-to-Watt Ratio". Based on the inverse relationship of dollars in the bank and effective radiated power.

Coax -- (Usually mispronounced as two syllables). A term applied to the maneuvering of a piece of transmission line through the attic or walls of a house.

REWARD OFFERED

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest of this desperate criminal - Hop-A-Long Capacity.

This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber.

He was charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Millihenry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules.

He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. If encountered, he may offer series of resistance.

Capacity is also charged with driving dc motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass.

The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth.

They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit

He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend eddy current who was playing a harmonic.
(author unknown)



TREASURE COAST HAM NEWS

The editors like to reserve the last couple 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.

Coming in Future Newsletters

Articles planned for coming issues of *Treasure Coast Ham News* include:

- *A look back at the year 2021*
- *More information for new hams*
- *Ham Radio History continues*
- *FT-8 DXing with Hamstick style mobile antennas*
- *Ferrite Cores—what and how to use*
- *Beginner's Guide to making CW contacts*

Area Club News

Port St. Lucie Amateur Radio Association

Membership is open to all who have interest in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed amateur operator. An application form is available at pslara.com under the "**Contact Us**" tab. The club meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Presently, meetings are held via ZOOM. See the web site for meeting details.

Officers and directors for 2022 were announced at the November meeting. Ken, WA4ABR, is president; Scott, AI4TT, is vice-president; and Bruce, WA3RHW, is secretary. Treasurer is open as of this writing. Jody, W4SLD, is a director. Other director positions are still undecided as of press time.

Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club

FPARC is a general purpose club involved in all aspects of amateur radio. The club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month on the Main Campus of Indian River State College in Fort Pierce.

The November and December meetings have been cancelled.. See the club's [web site](#) for details.

Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club

VBARC was formed November 1st, 1961 with just a handful of local hams. Today, it includes all of Indian River County, numbers over 100 members and continues to grow. From the beginning the club has worked with local government in emergency situations, and also with the Red Cross.

Martin County Amateur Radio Association



MCARA serves the Martin County, FL amateur radio community. They support county ECOMM through ARES. Activities include weekly Rag Chew Nets, ARES Nets and meetings, and monthly association meetings.

The association sponsors the yearly Stuart Hamfest.

MCARA also participates in operating events during the year. Watch the club web site and participate in their nets to learn more.

Repeaters and Club Nets

The Treasure Coast is blessed with a multitude of repeaters. Each club holds a weekly rag chew net on one or more of their repeaters. Schedules for the nets are available on most club web sites. Also check the calendar in this newsletter for net schedules. There is at least one net almost every evening. Get on the air and participate!

HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

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.

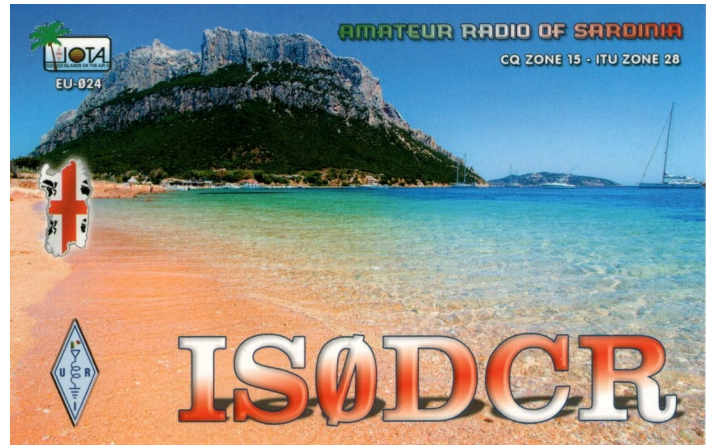
ORIGINAL NON-SMOKING OWNER - YAESU FT1000 HF XCVR 160-10M. 200 WATTS with factory options (DVS-2 voice keyer, MHI-B8 hand microphone) and service manual. Has factory shipping box. \$795.00

or Best Offer. [Yaesu FT-1000 Specifications & Manual](#)



Contact BOB, W7MAE, (772) 444-5845, or email w7mae@aol.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 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.)



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 fbertron@bftechnicarts.com. Phone 604-729-6454.

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