

From: Bill Williams [bwillia2@tampabay.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 10:02 AM
To: AA4SF Bob Phelps; AE4JP Oscar Goforth; AG4DY K4TBZ Connie & Bob; AG4QX Bill; AG4TO Herb; AI4YZ Roddy King ; 'Alan Bann AG4KU'; 'ARRL Clubs email'; 'Dan Hawthorne AI4ET'; 'Darrell Groves KV4HI'; 'Fred Luneburg KF4FCW'; 'Herb Copes'; K1KEN Ken Young; K4ALH Al Hann; 'KA4FMZ Ray Valentine'; KB1AF Wendy; KB4VOL Hamfest Ilist Bill; KB9LXM Pete; KC4HSI Keating; KC4SXO Bob Burke; KC4WHO Dave Callahan; 'KD4EDV Kent Smith'; KD4HUW Ray Smith; KD4MZL Jim Wedlake; KF4MAC Bill Scholl; KG4JSG Jim Schilling; KG4MRH Richard ; KG4RQS Jimmy; KI4MOT Scott Falcon ; KU3O George Perkins; N2MFT Tony DeAngelo; N2TS Tony Isch; N3BUL Fred Hendershot; N4GD Dee Turner; N4MAA Mike Anderson; N4NMQJoy; N4WBJ Budd Johnson; Rich York; 'Richard Stover'; Terry Kreizl N4OJ ; 'Udo Visintini KF4KUL'; w.a.williams@honeywell.com; W1AAG George Hartmann; W3VR Lu ; W4BNC Dan Johnson; W4DG Dennis Griffin; W4NHL Neil Lauritsen; W4RIR Ian; WA2PVK Bill Mansey; WD0DIA Jim Hansen
Subject: Wormhole Newsletter



News from THE GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE



September 2008

Hello Worms!

As I write this Hanna is projected to pass off the East coast early Friday morning and we should be in the quiet Southwest quadrant by Saturday morning. Ike shouldn't be here yet! Assuming they go where and when they are supposed to and not where and when they want to then we have a reasonable chance of a nice morning for the meeting. The plan right now is to meet in the park as usual but always keeping the Seminole Chamber of Commerce as the backup. Keep tuned to the repeater.

I will probably respond to a call for amateur radio help if ARES is activated but that depends on if I can arrange someone to take my sister to chemo. If I am not available for the meeting hopefully George will be. I will send out an email Friday letting everyone know what the plan is.

The march of hurricanes will also influence how much effort we put into our sponsorship of Chester's tailgate on September 13th.

The weather sure looked bad for our August meeting. It was pouring in Seminole and Pinellas Park but it was sunny at the park with a nice breeze and stayed that way for the whole meeting. I have always assigned Ray, KD4HUW, weather control for the Wormfests and he has always come through with good weather so I will give him the credit for our beautiful day at the park. I better speak to him about these hurricanes!

I guess Jim Schilling never sells any of his stuff. He has had the same list of equipment in the FOR SALE section for months now. JIM ... no one wants it ;-)

I woke up about 0800 on August 23 and the thunder was rattling the whole house. My thoughts were, "Well TARCfest is rained out for sure". After a while I realized I was not hearing rain so I got out of bed and looked out the window. Not only was it not raining then but it was dry, it had not rained all night! I tuned on the radio and Keating was saying that it was dry and the sun was shining at TARC. Turned out to be a nice hamfest although the number of sellers was way down and the number of buyers was proportionally down about the same. With all that every seller I asked, when they were leaving, were happy. They all said they did well selling. You just never know. I saw very few Worms there but lots of others that I only get to see during events, a good reason to go to hamfests. I even won one of the door prizes, just doesn't get much better than that.

STARC, The Sheriff's Tactical Amateur Radio Club, now has a 6M repeater up. It is located at Hillsborough County Fire Station 11. The output is at 51.64 with an input of 51.14 and it currently has no tone.

*** NASA's FIRST FIFTY YEARS ***

This by way of Warren Elly WIGUD

From: NASA News <hqnews@mediaservices.nasa.gov>

Aug. 1, 2008

Bob Jacobs

TAKE AN INTERACTIVE JOURNEY THROUGH NASA'S FIRST FIFTY YEARS OF EXPLORATION

WASHINGTON -- This week marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of the space act that created NASA. To commemorate NASA's beginning, the agency has released an immersive multimedia experience that takes visitors on an interactive tour of its first five decades of exploration.

Combining current and historic video with state-of-the-art computer animation, the virtual exhibit takes a World's Fair approach to NASA history, featuring pavilions that host each decade of the agency's challenges and achievements. Visitors will get unique insight into NASA's activities over the years, including a wide range of exploration and research initiatives, and a glimpse into the future.

"We're very excited to have people come and take a look at NASA's history," said Brian Dunbar, NASA's Internet services manager at Headquarters in Washington. "We've been able to take a wide range of material and weave it into a virtual tour that allows people to explore at their own pace."

The exhibit's host is an animated robot named Automa, who will guide visitors through their journey. Also assisting everyone throughout their tour are important historic and cultural figures of the past 50 years of aerospace history, including astronauts, presidents, astronomers, and other popular icons associated with NASA's history. For example, in the 1970s pavilion, visitors will see a presentation of NASA's Voyager and Viking missions hosted by an avatar of the late astronomer Carl Sagan, complete with excerpts from his popular television series "Cosmos."

"We're making our first real foray into animation," said David Mould, associate administrator for public affairs, Headquarters, Washington. "It represents a new communications medium for us and we have been fortunate to get the support of a lot of people that has enabled us to include some recognizable historic figures as part of this interactive commemoration."

Visitors to the site can also experience:

Interior 3D views of John Glenn's Friendship 7 Mercury spacecraft
The original April 1959 press conference introducing the Mercury astronauts
A tour of the International Space Station
Video presentations about NASA's aeronautics programs
An interview with former CBS news journalist Walter Cronkite

On July 29, 1958, the 34th President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower, signed into law the "National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958" (Public Law 85-568). Less than one month later, President Eisenhower administered the oath of office to NASA's first Administrator, T. Keith Glennan, and the agency's Deputy Administrator, Hugh L. Dryden, who had been serving as the director of NASA's predecessor, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, or NACA.

To begin the tour of NASA's first 50 years, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/50years> And learn more about the agency's 50th anniversary at: <http://www.nasa.gov/50th>

AM NET ACTIVITY

This information is also from Warren Elly, WIGUD. Hmmm there seems to be a trend here.

The Florida AM Group meets Sundays 7am warmup, 730 checkins... 3675 is primary frequency...we listen 3805 for checkins as well...

Monday night is vintage cw net 3535 at 730pm, this is slo speed straight key cw using our old novice stations if available... and the group usually qsys to am on 3675 after the net...

Tuesday night is the Southeast AM Club net on 3885 warm up is 630-7pm, they call the net at 730...this is regional, and full of wonderful big signals

Wednesday night is the Florida happy hour... 3675 informal, start listening around 630...folks are in and out for dinner and so on...

Thursday night, the mullet net... am gathering that's been going over 30 years..3885 at 730pm

Thursday night, Florida AFLAC net... vintage ssb 3810 at 730pm

Friday night catch as catch can... everyone kinda tunes around 3675, 3705, 3885... lots of gatherings

Saturday morning early, and I do mean early, 530am, Old Military Radio Net on 3885 net control is in PA...and usually conditions, even in summer, are pretty good that early

Saturday night is more catch as catch can...with big New England group on 3885 late between 11 and midnight

There's also significant activity on 7290 AM on weekend late mornings... also on 14.286 AM, we've worked New England and California AM stations as late as 11pm on 20....all depends of course on conditions and we've been getting reports on 10 meter activity...29.000 AM usually weekend late morning and late afternoons...

Sure looking forward to hearing from you!!

73, Warren

I might add that the Florida AM Group will have a meeting during the Tampa Bay Hamfest. Go to the hamfest forums webpage to see the schedule. <http://www.fgcarc.org/> Come on in and join the fun on AM. Bill

DXCC CARD CHECKERS

Tony, N2MFT asked me to remind everyone that there are ARRL card checkers available. There are two in West Central Florida Section that can check all three (DXCC, WAS, VUCC). Their contact information is available on the league website at <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/checkers.html>. They will also be available at this month's TARC hamfest and at the Tampa Bay Hamfest in December. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/awards/> for all the information and requirements for each award.

TECHNICIAN CLASS

More from Tony, N2MFT

At the last MFDXA meeting we decided to teach a Technician class. With the help of Bernie, W4BGH classes will begin on September 17, 2008 at 7 PM. Classes will be 2 hours per night for 8 weeks in Brandon at our regular meeting location. The last class will be a review before the November 8, 2008, VE Session.

If you can help teach or know of anyone interested please pass along the information. A flyer is located on the club web site. www.W4FDX.com/class08.html

Tony N2MFT
President
Mid Florida DX Association
DXCC Card Checker and VE Coordinator
<http://www.w4fdx.com/>

ELMERING CW OPS

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I have a reputation for being a CW zealot. It's a reputation that I quite deserve, thank you very much, and one that I'm proud of. Working CW is a heckuva lot of fun, and I want to help as many hams as I can enjoy it as much as I do.

Unlike some OFs (e-mail me if you're not familiar with that CW abbreviation) who just complain that no one operates CW anymore or bemoan the elimination of the code test, I try to walk the walk as well as talk the talk. Here are some of the things I do to get guys to operate CW:

* I always carry around copies of the K7QO Code Course on CD-ROM (<http://www.kc5cqm.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Main.K7QOcwCourse>). K7QO has graciously allowed this version to be distributed freely, and when I'm at a ham event, and anyone expresses even the slightest interest in CQ, I pull one out of my briefcase and hand it to him or her.

* I try to keep one or two inexpensive paddles around to sell to interested folks. Bencher BY-1s are good starter paddles, and you can often find them at hamfests or on EBay for fifty to sixty bucks. I usually keep one or two "in stock." When someone asks about paddles, I offer to sell them one of the ones I have for exactly what I paid for it. Since they know me, they get a good feeling that they're getting a decent paddle at a decent price. And once they have it in the shack, it takes away one excuse for not operating CW. I also, provide technical support. By that I mean I help them get the key and keyer adjusted properly and help them use it properly.

* I never denigrate or complain about hams that never had to pass a code test. That's a sure turnoff. As soon as people get the feeling that you're looking down your nose at them, you lose all credibility with them and they just stop listening to you. My personal opinion is that if more folks have ham licenses, then the pool of potential CW operators is bigger.

* I never denigrate or complain about hams that don't operate CW. See above.

* I acknowledge that Morse Code can be difficult to learn. I often apologize for the fact that I got into it when I was young and it was easier for me to pick it up then. I also apologize that I seem to have at least a limited talent for Morse Code. I acknowledge that this is not something one learns overnight. You're more likely to win someone over if you sympathise instead of criticise. I like to challenge them to learn it, noting that once they've acquired the skill, it's something that they can be proud of. Not only that, it's a lot of fun!

* I try to show them how much fun CW is! I have an Elecraft KX-1, which I take to things like club picnics. Throw up a simple antenna and I am on the air making contacts. I also invite guys to my shack and show them in person how cool it is.

Finally, I give presentations to just about any club that invites me, if I can make the arrangements. On my blog at <http://kb6nu.com/a-cw-presentation-for-your-club/>, you can find the text for the slides I used for my presentation, "CW is Fun!". Feel free to use them to give a presentation to your club.

Who knows? If you give this presentation to your club, maybe you'll even get one or two guys interested enough in CW to learn the code and get on the air. If every current CW op Elmered one other ham every year, the CW bands would be chock full of activity. We'd be complaining that it's impossible to find a clear frequency instead of complaining that it's getting hard to find a contact.

CLUB MEETING

The next meeting is 1100 Saturday morning, September 6, at Lake Seminole Park, located at 10015 Park Boulevard. The meeting will be in shelter 13 in Lake Seminole Park, assuming good weather. The park is on the North side of Park Boulevard between Pinellas Park and Seminole. Talk-in on the Wormhole repeater system. We will keep an eye peeled for you. A beautiful place and the weather is predicted to be a beautiful day but with a chance of rain. We will take advantage of the cooking facilities with an after-the-meeting Social and wormdog luncheon. Check into the repeater for any last minute meeting changes caused by weather or other unforeseen conditions. We will fall back to the Seminole Chamber of Commerce located at 8400 113th Street if the need arises. That is seven blocks North of Park Blvd on the West side of 113th. Bring your appetite. For those coming to the meeting who cannot hit the repeater we will be monitoring 146.520 simplex, the national calling frequency.

CLUB NETS

Check in on the club net Thursdays at 1930. 442.625 + with a 146.2 tone or the 2M side at 146.850 – also with a tone of 146.2. We are always looking for volunteers to be the net control operator. Anyone interested, talk to one your club officers.

The 10M net meets on Tuesday Nights at 9:00 PM Local Time (0100 GMT) Frequency: 28.405 Mhz + or – QRM Mode: Upper Side Band

LOCAL NETS

MONDAY

1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930	NI4CE	WCF Section VHF ARES	your closest NI4CE repeater
1930	443.050 103.5 monthly	Monday before the fourth Thursday	HEART club net
2000	147.165 136.5	Brandon ARS	from Brandon

TUESDAY

1830	147.060 no tone	PARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1900	50.200 USB	simplex	from Brandon
1930	145.170 & 442.4 both pl 156.7	Pinellas ACS net	from Clearwater
2000	28.365 USB	simplex	from Brandon
2100	28.405 USB	simplex	Wormhole net, all invited
2100	28.465 USB	10/10 net	from Orlando

WEDNESDAY

1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
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1930 NI4CE system	WCF Section Digital Info Net	NI4CE system
2000 147.550	CARS	from Clearwater
2100 NI4CE system	Tampa Bay Traders Net	non-affiliated
1930 52.020 simplex	Suncoast 6'ers	
THURSDAY		
1830 147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930 146.850 & 442.625 both pl 146.8	Wormhole	from St Petersburg
1930 224.660	SPARC net	from St Petersburg
FRIDAY		
1830 147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930 147.360 pl 127.3	METRO Friday Net	from St Petersburg
SATURDAY		
0830 3.911 (7.281 backup)	WCF Section HF Net	
1830 147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930 NI4CE system	WCF YL net	NI4CE system
SUNDAY		
1830 147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
2100 144.210 USB	CARS	vertical orientation
2000 147.550 simplex	550 Simplex Net	non-affiliated, net control is generally in
southern Pinellas County		
2000 144.250 USB	from the East coast	horizontal orientation

FOR SALE / WANTED

Anyone having something for sale or who might be looking for an item let me know. I will not print phone numbers or email addresses unless specifically told to since this newsletter might end up on the web. The exception is when I get the information off the web. If you are a member of the Wormhole then you have all the information you need on a club roster and if you are not a member .. why not? OK, if you are not a member you can contact me at the email address at the end of this newsletter, I will give you the information to contact the person involved.

*** The following is all from Jim Schilling.

*KANTRONICS KPC-9612 Plus TNC, Includes box, manual and software. NEVER USED. \$329

*Cobra 148 GTL DX+ Amateur Export Radio, Frequency range: 24.265 - 29.655 MHz, CW/AM/FM/SSB. Manual, power cord and mobile mounting bracket. \$225

*MFJ-817 VHF/UHF Cross Needle SWR Meter \$80

*Radio Shack Digital Multimeter 22-181B \$54

*Mirage KP2/6M mast mounted pre-amp, Includes box and manual. NEVER USED. \$148

*MFJ Versa Tuner II Model MFJ-969, HF + 6M, 300W. Includes manual and box. \$160

*Regency MX7000 Scanner, Frequency range: 25 - 550 MHz and 800 - 1200 MHz. CELLULAR NOT BLOCKED. Modified for Anderson powerpole. \$80

*Icom IC-PCR1000 Wide Band Receiver, Includes box, cables, software, antenna and manual. \$160

*"I have been cleaning up and need to clear out some stuff. I will consider any offer or trade. I can be reached at 863 422-0176, please leave a message. Also e-mail sent to kg4jsz@arrl.net or kg4jsz@mindspring.net will work as well."

***Drake TX4C, new in box, never used. With manuals, no power supply. Contact Ray Valentine, KA4FMZ.



ANNUAL EVENTS TO REMEMBER

January 3	2009 Wormhole meeting
Late January	Winter Field Day, http://www.spar-hams.org/index.php
February 7	2009 Wormhole meeting
March 7	2009 Wormhole meeting
March/April	MS Walks
April 4	2009 Wormhole meeting
Late April	Southeastern VHF Society Conference, http://www.svhfs.org
Late April	Walk For Babies
Late April	Mass Casualty Exercises
Late April	Florida QSO Party
Early May	MS 150 bike ride
May 2	2009 Wormhole meeting
May 23	Wormfest 2009
Mid May	NI4CE picnic
June 6	2009 Wormhole meeting
Late June	Field Day http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/
July 3/4	Midnight Run
July 4	2009 Wormhole meeting
August 5	2008 Wormhole meeting
September 6	2008 Wormhole meeting
Sept 13	2008 Wormhole sponsored Chester's
October 4	2008 Wormhole meeting
November 1	2008 Wormhole meeting
December 13	2008 Wormhole meeting

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION NETS

HF net time is at 08:30 AM EDT Saturday mornings. Use 3.911 MHz. as the primary frequency with 7.281 MHz. as the alternate frequency.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION ARES VHF NET

Section ARES VHF net every Monday evening at 7:30 PM on the NI4CE repeater system.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION DIGITAL TRAINING NET

West Central Florida Section ARES Digital Training net every Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM on the NI4CE repeater system.

Digital Training Net Format:

- 1st Week - Sound Cards - Discussion Only
- 2nd Week - PSK-31
- 3rd Week - SSTV
- 4th Week - Winlink 2000 Discussion Only
- 5th Week (when this occurs) - Other Modes

HAMFESTS

2008

September 13

**CHESTER'S free tailgate. Chester's Electronics, 311 Missouri Ave N., 727-585-4736
Sponsored by The Wormhole.**

September 20

Orlando, Bahia Shrine Center, 2300 Pembroke Drive, Talk in on 147.39 103.5 tone. For more information Warren Hill, W4WHH, 407-365-6682 or see the website at <http://www.bahiashrine.org/~radio/Tailgate.htm>

September 27

New Port Richie, First Lutheran Church, 6416 Delaware Ave., Talk-in on 146.640, For more information call Ron, N9EE at 727-376-6575 or see the website at <http://www.qsl.net/sarc/>

October 11-12

Melbourne, Florida State Convention, Melbourne City Auditorium, 625 East Hibiscus Blvd. talkin on 146.25 no tone, contact Jan Heise, K4QD 321-956-2482 or see <http://www.pcars.org>

November 1

Eustis, Eustis Senior Center, 301 West Ward Street, talkin on 147.345 107.2 tone or 444.800 107.2 tone. Contact David Nachbaur, KR4OW 352-357-3485 or at pkmaint@yahoo.com or goto the club website at <http://www.k4fc.org/index.html>

November 8

**CHESTER'S free tailgate. Chester's Electronics, 311 Missouri Ave N., 727-585-4736
Sponsored by the Victory Ship Club.**

December 6-7

Palmetto, **Tampa Bay Hamfest** and the **West Central Florida Section Convention**, Manatee Civic Center 1 Haben Boulevard, for information see Keating Floyd, KC4HSI, chairman@fgcarc.org or go to <http://www.tampabayhamfest.org>

2009

January 17

Fort Myers, **Southern Florida Section Convention**, Araba Shrine Auditorium, 2010 Hanson Street talk-in: 146.880 pl 136.5, contact Lawrence W. Zimmer, W4LWZ at 239-282-1526 or email at W4LWZ@arrl.net For more info see <http://www.fmarc.net>

February 12, 13, 14

Orlando, Hamcation, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive, Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Talk-in 146.760- no PL. All the information is on the website at <http://hamcation.com/>

May 3

**St Petersburg, Lake Maggiore, SPARC, Free, 9th Street S at 38 Avenue. Starts at 0700.
Talk-in on 147.060+ no tone.**

May 15, 16 & 17

Dayton, the one in Ohio ;-)
www.hamvention.org.

May 23

Wormfest 2009, Pinellas Park, FREE, Freedom Lake Park, Southeast corner of US 19 and 49th Street, 0800 till... Talkin on 442.625 + with a 146.2 tone or 146.850 - with a tone of 146.2. For a map and directions see <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org> .



YOUR WORMHOLE OFFICERS

Bill, AG4QX is President and editor of this newsletter, Vice-President is George, W1AAG, Treasurer is Jim,

KD4MZL, Secretary and club representative to FGCARC is Connie, K4TBZ, Dee, N4GD is the Repeater Trustee and Neil, W4NHL is the club webmaster.

YOUR WORMHOLE REPEATERS

442.625 + PL 146.2

146.850 - PL 146.2

West Central Florida Section website: <http://www.arrlwcf.org/>.

The Wormhole website is at: <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org>

The Wormhole message board is at yahoo/w4orm

Anyone wishing to be removed from The Glorious Society of the Wormhole mailings please write to me at the address below and thy will be done.

73,

Bill Williams

AG4QX

[ag4qx_AT arrl DOT net](mailto:ag4qx_AT_arrl_DOT_net)