

THE PRESSER: ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION NEWS
Issue #2 - February 2015
By Darrell Davis KT4WX
ARRL West Central Florida Section Manager

(NOTE: This newsletter with hyperlinks included is located online at <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/west-central-florida>)

NEW ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGER APPOINTED – RANDY PAYNE K4EZM:

On Monday January 25th, Randy Payne K4EZM was appointed to be an Assistant Section Manager for Administration for the West Central Florida. Randy will be assisting me with Administrative duties of the Section. For the full press release go to <http://arrlwcf.org/news/2015/01/29/wcf-section-press-release-6-12615/>.

THE FIRST ANNUAL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION TECHNICAL CONFERENCE:

The First Annual West Central Florida Section Technical Conference will be held on Saturday April 4, 2015 from 9:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. at the Bert J. Harris Jr. Agri-Civic Center, 4905 George Blvd, Sebring. Welcome and last minute registration will begin at 8:15 A.M. If you are planning on attending, please go to the WCF Section Technical Conference Registration Page at <http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/> and fill out the online registration form. You will receive an online and email confirmation of your successful registration. There you can also download the conference flyer, and look WCF Section Technical Conference Event Page on the WCF Section Events Calendar, which has a Google Map showing the location of the Agri-Civic Center. The direct link to the Section Calendar Event Page for the WCF Section Technical Conference is at <http://www.arrlwcf.org/event/first-annual-arrl-wcf-section-technical-conference/>.

We are still looking for more speakers. If you have an area of expertise in any area of amateur radio or amateur radio related technology consider being one of our speakers. Having a PowerPoint slide show and or PDF handouts is a great addition but not required if you wish to speak. We will have a section on our website for PDF handouts and or PowerPoint presentations that will go live when the conference begins, so those who attend the conference will be able to view and or download these materials on their tables and or smart-phones for viewing during the presentations.

The conference schedule will be finalized in mid March and the conference schedule will be published on the Section website mid to late March. We will have hourly door prizes and several door prizes at the end of the day. You must be present to win one of the door prizes. Also we will have a guest speaker for one of the conference slots from ARRL Headquarters. Anyone from inside or outside of the Section is welcome to attend or be a speaker at the conference.

WCF SECTION 15TH BIRTHDAY QSO PARTY:

The ARRL West Central Florida Section turned 15 years old on January 15, 2015. It seemed appropriate that we celebrate the 15th birthday of the Section. The WCF Section QSO Party will be held from April 1, 2015 until June 30, 2015.

We will have the complete WCF Section QSO Party rules published during February on the Section website. All modes and frequencies, including repeaters will be allowed. This will allow many of our new hams who do not as of yet have HF privileges to get on and make contacts for the QSO Party. Also we are planning to have K4WCF portable operations at least once in each of ten counties of the WCF Section. If your club or group is interested in running K4WCF for a day in your county, please fill out the Contact Form on the Section website at <http://arrlwcf.org/contact-info/>.

STATION APPOINTEES PLEASE REAPPLY:

To those of you who have re-applied for your various ARRL Station Appointments, thank you very much. If you have been serving as an ARRL Station Appointee (Emergency Coordinator, Official Relay Station, Net Manager, Official Emergency Station, Official Observer, Local Government Liaison, Technical Specialist) and have not reapplied, please go to our newly redesigned Section website and reapply on the Online Station Appointment Form at <http://www.arrlwcf.org/wcf-section-programs-2/station-appointee-application-form/> in the Section Program tab to continue your appointment. This allows us to know who is interested in continuing to serve as an ARRL Station Appointee and who is no longer active. Please be sure to do so by the end of this month.

STATION APPOINTEE MONTHLY REPORTS:

Also if you are serving in one of these appointments, please be sure to file a monthly report by the 5th day of the month following the month being reported. For example for the month of January, your report would be due by February 5th. This can be simply an email to the Cabinet member that is the coordinator over your Station Appointment or myself, telling us what you did last month or anything you feel is worth including. No particular format is necessary. Even if you were not active for that month, simply put something like, "No activity for this month to report". Regular reporting is an ARRL requirement to hold an ARRL Station Appointment.

ARRL Emergency Coordinators you now a report form for you to use on the Section website at <http://arrlwcf.org/section-forms/emergency-coordinators-monthly-report-form/>. We will have online Report forms for the other Station Appointees by the end of the month available for your reports. Time was not available to finish the forms for the other Station Appointees.

SECTION CALENDAR – CALL FOR YOUR CLUB MEETING, RADIO NETS, AND REPEATER INFORMATION:

To those who have already sent us their club meeting information, thank you for sending in that information. If you are contact for your radio club or group, please help us getting out your club meeting, radio net, and repeater information in the right places on our Section website by filling out a Contact Form at <http://arrlwcf.org/contact-info/>. You will receive an online and email confirmation of what you submitted. Then we can compile this information and put it on the Section website in the appropriate places.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS IN THE SECTION-FORMS

We have the following hamfest coming up in the Section for the month of February:

- Saturday February 13-15: Orlando Hamcation: Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando.
- Saturday February 21: Highlands County Hamfest: Lake Josephine Baptist Church, between Sebring and Lake Placid.

For more information on hamfests and events in the Section , please visit our website Section Calendar at <http://www.arrlwcf.org/events> for more information.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

January was a busy month for your Section Manager and staff. On Saturday January 10th, the first quarterly WCF Section Cabinet and WCF Section ARES meeting was held in the morning and afternoon respectively at the Highlands County EOC. On Saturday January 17th, I attended TARCfest #32 at the Tampa Amateur Radio Clubhouse on the north side of Tampa. The Tampa Amateur Radio Club is blessed with a nice clubhouse and club station. On Saturday January 24, Ben Henley KI4IGX (ASM and SEC), Randy Payne K4EZM (ASM and ASEC) and I attended the Desoto County Hamfest, then paid a visit two SPAR Winter Field Day sites. One of these was with the Sarasota Amateur Radio Association held at a Baptist Church on Palmer Blvd in Sarasota, and the other was put on by the Manatee County ARES near Lakewood Ranch. On Friday January 30th and Saturday January 31st, Ben Henley KI4IGX and I carpooled together to the Miami Hamboree at the Dade County Youth Fairgrounds in West Miami, to represent the West Central Florida Section. Jeff Beals WA4AW (SM SFL) and his team made us feel welcome and right at home.

SECTION TRAFFIC REPORT:

Starting in the next issue of THE PRESSER we will include the monthly Section Traffic report. Doug N2DW always does a great job with generating these monthly reports and is changing the format so it can be included in THE PRESSER. Thanks Doug for your dedicated labor.

SECTION MANAGERS CONTACT INFORMATION:

Here is my contact information. Much of this is listed now on Page 16 of QST.

- U.S. Mail: 6350 Mills Road Fort Meade, FL 33841
- Telephone: (863) 245-9923
- Email: kt4wx@arrl.org
- Website: <http://www.kt4wx.org>.

That is all for this issue of THE PRESSER. See you all here next month. Hopefully I will get to see many of you at a meeting, hamfest, or talk to you on the air.

73 de Darrell KT4WX