

**Section Manager**  
Darrell Davis, KT4WX

**Assistant Section  
Manager Executive**  
Ben Henley, KI4IGX

**Assistant Section  
Manager Administrative**  
Randy Payne, K4EZM

**Assistant Section Manager  
Legal Affairs**  
Biff Craine, K4LAW

**Assistant Section Manager  
SM Emeritus & Tampa Bay Area**  
Dee Turner, N4GD

**Assistant Section Manager  
PIC/ACC Assistant**  
Steve Muller, KM4VRK

**Affiliated Club Coordinator**  
Mike Douglas, W4MDD

**Public Information Coordinator**  
Rich Kennedy, N4ESS

**Section Emergency Coordinator**  
Ben Henley, KI4IGX

**Section Traffic Manager**  
Doug Williams, N2DW

**Section Youth Coordinator**  
Christine Duez KK4KJN

**Technical Coordinator**  
Dave Birnbaum, K2LYV

**Assistant Section Manager  
Publications**  
Jim Weslager, K3WR

## SECTION MANAGERS MUSINGS

by **Darrell Davis, KT4WX**  
**ARRL West Central Florida  
Section Manager**

Welcome to the April issue of the WCF PRESSER. Since I last wrote to you, many things in our everyday lives has changed, have changed very rapidly, and in some cases almost daily. This time last month we had heard about the coronavirus, or COVID-19 as it is unofficially named, and in Florida we only had a handful of cases. Now one month later, as I write this, we have almost 8,000 cases statewide and that count has been going up approximately 800 cases per day for the last week. As a result everyone has been requested by the White House and the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention to practice "social distancing". Just yesterday Wednesday April 1st, Governor Ron Desantis issued Executive Order 20-91, which ordered all Florida residents to "stay at home" except for travel for "essential services" or "essential activities", which include worship, recreational activities, care of pets, and



helping a friend or loved one, all with social distancing practices being observed. Even most churches and or places of worship have canceled public services and are doing virtual services by on-line video and or audio streaming, including my own church. I have been off from work, driving a school bus, and mostly at home since Friday March 13th. I have only been traveling when I need to go get groceries and supplies for Mom and myself, and to go to our church on Sunday and Wednesday to do our virtual service by on-line video/ audio streaming, since we are not having public services right now to comply with

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the request from White House and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

This has impacted amateur radio as well. Even before this latest executive order all hamfests, most radio club meetings, and other radio related get togethers had been canceled. Now with the new executive order, all in person amateur radio gatherings will have to be canceled for the month of April. Even Dayton Hamvention was canceled in mid-March for the first time in its history. However now is the time amateur radio can shine. Many radio clubs are doing either virtual meetings via Zoom or other videoconferencing technology, or are doing “on the air” meetings. I have seen amateur radio activity increase significantly during the month of March. Radio contests, including the Florida QSO Party, are going forward. Since most of us are now “homebound” we have the opportunity to do some of the following: (1) Work on that next radio related construction and or modification project which could include an improvement on your base station and or ARES Go-Kit. (2) Take some more on-line courses, including those ICS courses that you may need for ARES, ACS, or CERT. (3) Participate in radio nets, ragchews, DX, and maybe even a contest. (4) Catch up reading some articles that you may have missed in QST, QEX, NCJ, or On The Air magazine. These activities will help you to prevent getting “cabin fever” and keep you sharp mentally. Also you will get an opportunity to catch up on some family time that you will never regret. Do not forget when you do go out, to continue to practice your social distancing which is staying 6 feet apart from others, washing your hands often, and using hand sanitizer when you cannot wash your hands. Go for a walk or a bike

ride occasionally to help with the effects

Everyone stay safe and stay healthy. Talk to you all again next month.

## **ARES Traffic Training Net**

**by Bill Paul KK4LYQ**

**Assistant Net Manager - Polk County ARES**

A net will be established by Imperial Polk County ARES for training and practice of handling formal written traffic in the form of Radiograms.

The net, called the “ARES Traffic Training Net”, or ATTN will operate on the Polk County Emergency Management WC4PEM repeater system.

The ATTN net will open each Wednesday night immediately following the regular Imperial Polk County ARES net which opens at 7:30PM local and usually closes by 8:00. Information about the WC4PEM repeater system is available on the web at <https://polkares.org/>.

The net is restricted to registered stations but all stations are invited to listen. Before the net closes, there will be a question or comment section which will be open to all interested stations.

Operators wishing to participate in future training sessions of this net are requested to contact the Polk County ARES assistant net manager Bill Paul KK4LYQ at [KK4LYQ@ARRL.net](mailto:KK4LYQ@ARRL.net).

I look forward to hearing from you.



## ROY DRURY K4DCT IS A SILENT KEY

Roy Drury K4DCT passed away on Wednesday April 1, 2020, after a prolonged period of illness.

Roy was serving as ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Hillsborough County ARES/RACES up until shortly



before his death and was serving as an ARRL Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator for the ARRL West Central Florida Section. Roy had previously served as an Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Hillsborough County ARES/RACES.

Roy is survived by his wife Dawn K2WLS, who is currently serving as an ARRL District Emergency Coordinator and an Assistant Emergency Coordinator with Hillsborough County ARES/RACES, his son and daughter who are both licensed amateur radio operators.

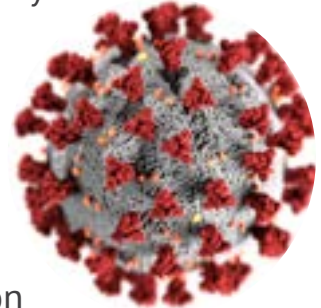
Darrell Davis KT4WX, Section Manager of the ARRL West Central Florida Section had this to say upon Roy's passing, "Roy never thought about himself but only the good of his family and serving others. Roy provided great leadership for Hillsborough County ARES/RACES and great service to the amateur radio community. He will be missed by all who new him."

A GoFundMe account has been established to help the Drury family with final expenses and medical expenses. For more information please go to <https://www.gofundme.com/f/druryfamilycare>.

## SECTION ARES MEETING FOR SPRING 2020 AND APRIL 2020 TARCFEST CANCELED

Ben Henley KI4IGX, our Section Emergency Coordinator, has canceled the Spring 2020 ARRL West Central Florida Section ARES Luncheon and ARRL West Central Florida Section ARES Meeting both scheduled for Saturday April 11, 2020 in Sarasota County.

This cancellation is due in keeping with guidelines issued by the White House and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The next scheduled Section ARES Luncheon and Section ARES Meeting will be on Saturday July 11, 2020.



Biff Craine K4LAW, one of our Assistant Section Managers, relayed the following information from the Tampa Amateur Radio Club, "TARCFest has been held in April since its beginning but will be canceled this April due in part to park closure and our inability to provide a responsible event that would not contribute to efforts to stem the spread on COVID-19. This action is consistent with other tailgates from Dayton to Zephyrhills." The next scheduled TARCFest will later in the year in August.



## NEW EMERGENCY COORDINATOR FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ARES/RACES APPOINTED

On Monday March 30, 2020, Bill Miller N1CDO, was appointed as the ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Hillsborough County ARES/RACES due to the declining health of Roy Drury K4DCT, who subsequently passed away on Wednesday April 1, 2020.



Miller, first licensed in 1980, has been extensively involved with ARES and MARS since he was licensed.

After retiring from a career with the United States Navy, Miller moved to Ruskin, to be close to his parents, where he became involved with Hillsborough County ARES/RACES serving as the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for HF operations and most recently as the executive Assistant Emergency Coordinator.

Miller is also involved with the Kings Point Amateur Radio Club serving as a volunteer examiner and taking care of several repeaters. Miller also has been providing service for several years with the annual Bike MS Citrus Tour, Miller is also an ARRL Life Member.

Miller in his professional career served in the United States Navy, having served in numerous locations and had been an Electronics and Operations instructor.

## FLORIDA ARES TASK BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

The Florida ARES Task Book is now available for download from the West Central Florida Section ARES webpage on the Section website at <http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-section-programs/ares/>.



The Florida ARES Task Book, originally adopted from the ARES Task Book created by the ARRL South Texas Section, has been compiled for use in the entire State of Florida by all three ARRL Florida Section ARES organizations. The three ARRL Florida Section Emergency Coordinators worked together on the compilation of the Florida ARES Task Book, and received numerous inputs from the ARRL Emergency Coordinators in all three ARRL Florida Sections.

The Florida ARES Task Book is intended for amateur radio operators who have made themselves available for deployment outside of their own county of residence for a mutual aid response in times of disaster, when such mutual aid is requested by a served agency.

The ARES Task Book is a concept first introduced in the new ARRL ARES Plan which came into effect in January 2019.

## FLORIDA QSO PARTY SCHEDULED FOR 4/25/20 AND 4/26/20

The Florida Contest Group has announced the Florida QSO Party will be held this year as scheduled. The Florida QSO Party is scheduled for Saturday April 25, 2020 and Sunday April 26, 2020.



At the present time, mobile operation will be allowed this year as in years past. For detailed information on contest rules, suggested frequencies of operation, and log entry – submission information go to the Florida QSO Party website at <http://www.floridaqsoparty.org/>.

The Florida Contest Groups has also established a Florida QSO Party groups.io list and is open for anyone to join. Anyone wishing to subscribe to the Florida QSO Party email reflector may send an email request to George Wagner, K5KG at [k5kg@k5kg.com](mailto:k5kg@k5kg.com), who is administrator of the list. Upon receiving

your request to join, George will send you an invitation to subscribe to the reflector. When you receive the invitation, simply follow the instructions, and sign yourself up.

The Florida Contest Group simply requests that everyone follow the COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and enjoy the contest.



## NEW Q CODES FOR THESE TOUGH TIMES

The following was brought to our attention by Roy Jackson KW4G and has been seen on Facebook in recent days in numerous places.

*Temporary Ham Radio Q-Codes for our times:*

QLD: I am locked down.

QUA: I am quarantined.

QPD: I am in the middle of a pandemic.

QTP: I have toilet paper. Want to trade for a new car?

QFC: I am flattening the curve.

QHG: I need a hug.

QSH: I am sheltering in place.

QHS: I have hand sanitizer. Want to trade for two new cars?

QSD: I am observing social distancing.

QCV: I hate Coronavirus.



Courtesy of Bud Steward NOKBS

### The Sign Reads:

Attention Visitors

As a precautionary measure for the current C-19 Pandemic, we will no longer be seeing visitors in person.

In place of that, the doorbell button is now connected to a Morse Code oscillator. Please use the doorbell button to state your business in Morse Code.

If you do not know Morse Code, we have no business.

Have a good day.

Me

## SECTION NET INFORMATION

Here is a list of the current Section Nets that are in operation: Please feel free to check in and participate on these nets as you are able to do so.

DAY / NET	NET	NET TIME	SYSTEM/FREQ	NET MANAGER
Daily	Eagle Net (West Central Florida Section NTS Net)	2030 hours	NI4CE Repeater System	Dave Rockwell W4PXE
Monday	West Central Florida Section ARES and Information Net	1930 hours	NI4CE Repeater System	J.C. Rivero K4RTC
Thursday	West Central Florida Section Technical Net	2100 hours	NI4CE Repeater System	Vacant
Saturday	West Central Florida Section ARES and Information Net	0730 hours	3940 KHz	Randy Payne K4EZM

The Section ARES Information Net on 3940 KHz will start at either 0730 or immediately following the Florida Phone Traffic Net whichever is later.

For more information on the NI4CE Repeater System, including frequencies and a coverage map go to <http://www.ni4ce.org> or visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ni4ce>.

The ARRL West Central Florida Section wishes to thank the West Central Florida Group Inc. for the use of the NI4CE Repeater System for the Section Nets that are on VHF and UHF.



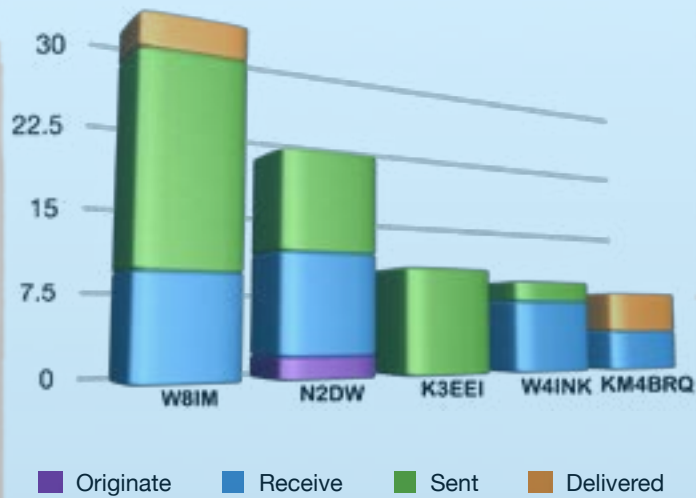
## SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT

by Doug Williams N2DW

Section Traffic Manager, ARRL West Central Florida Section

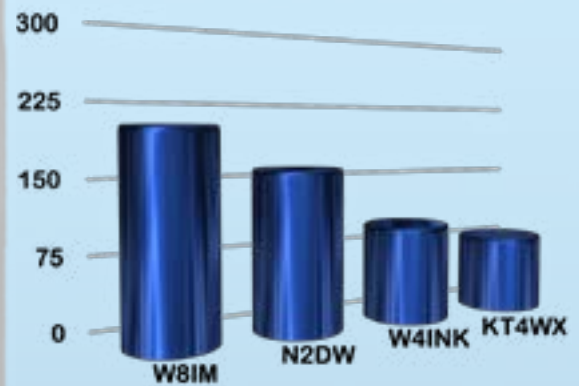
West Central Florida STM Reports  
February 2020

### Station Activity Reports (SAR)



Call Sign	Originate	Receive	Sent	Delivered	Total
W8IM	0	9	18	3	30
N2DW	2	9	9	0	20
K4EEI	0	0	10	0	10
W4INK	0	7	2	0	9
KM4BRQ	0	4	0	4	8

### Public Service Honor Roll



Call Sign	Total
W8IM	202
N2DW	160
W4INK	99
KT4WX	80

### West Central Net Activity Reports

Net Name	Sessions	Stations	Traffic	Minutes	Manager
EAGLE NET	29	1403	30	943	W4PXE
SPARC	29	513	10	990	KN4LUZ
SQUARES	4	44	3	46	KB2ICN



## COMING HAMFESTS IN THE SECTION

**April 18, 2020**

TARCFest SPRING 2020

TARC Clubhouse,  
7801 N. 22nd Street  
Tampa, FL



**CANCELED**

**June 13**

MID-JUNE PRE-ARRL FIELD  
DAY TAILGATE 2020

Dade City Masonic Lodge  
13642 21st Street South  
Dade City, FL 33523

**May 9, 2030**

EPARS Tailgate

Church Street Park  
37746 Church Avenue  
Dade City, FL 33523

**August 22, 2020**

TARCFest SPRING 2020

TARC Clubhouse,  
7801 N. 22nd Street  
Tampa, FL



**May 23, 2020**

WORMFest 2020

Freedom Lake Park,  
9990 46th Street North  
Pinellas Park, FL , FL 33782



**Nov 14, 2020**

SPARCFEST 2020

Freedom Lake Park,  
9990 46th Street North  
Pinellas Park, FL , FL 33782



# 6th ANNUAL TechCon 2020 WCF Country West Central Florida Section





# 6th ANNUAL TechCon 2020 WCF Country West Central Florida Section





# 2020 Bike MS Citrus Tour - Saturday March 7th and Sunday March 8th

