

Section Manager
Mike Douglas W4MDD

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

Affiliated Club Coordinator
Steve Maslin, NS4M

Public Information Coordinator
Mike Lunsford, KB4FHP

Section Emergency Coordinator
Norman Xanders, WX4NEX

Section Traffic Manager
Doug Williams, N2DW

Section Youth Coordinator
Christine Duez, KK4KJN

Technical Coordinator
Darrell Davis, KT4WX

SECTION MANAGER'S MUSINGS

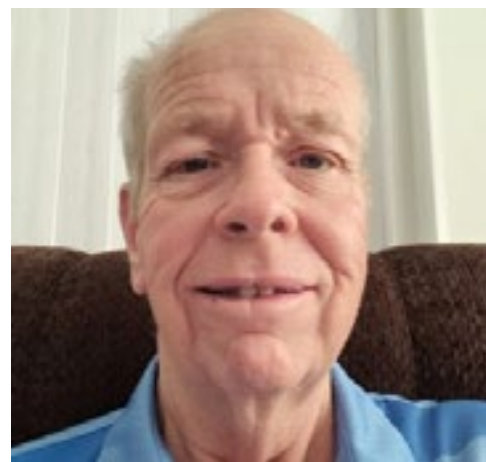
BY MIKE DOUGLAS, W4MDD
ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION MANAGER

HELLO FELLOW AMATEURS

Good Afternoon Fellow
Hams,

Here's wishing you and your family a very safe and a very special Memorial Day weekend. This is especially true now that we may very well be near the light at the end of Pandemic Tunnel. But! Just around the corner is also the upcoming hurricane season. Sorry to get your spirits up and then blow them up in the same paragraph.

Concerning the email that Norman Xanders, WX4NEX, our new Section Emergency Coordinator sent out to all county Emergency Coordinators, could those of



you that have yet to reply to Norman please do so? Thank you ECs in advance.

That is all I have at this time.

73,

Mike Douglas, W4MDD
Section Manager

NTS RADIOGRAM OVER THE AIR TRAINING CLASS FOR 2021 COMING UP SOON

The following press release was disseminated by Dave Rockwell W4PXE, Net Manager for the Eagle Net concerning an upcoming NTS radiogram training class:

“The Eagle Net, the National Traffic System net for the West Central Florida Section, will be holding a radiogram traffic training net on four consecutive Wednesdays beginning on May 26. The training net will be held at 9:00 P.M. local time or after the conclusion of the Eagle Net. The net roster will be open to 15 stations only. Other stations may listen in and log in as visitors. Roster stations completing the sessions will receive ARRL certificates for the training. If you are interested send your name and call sign to w4pxe@arrl.net. Stevie, W4INK, will be the net control and Dave, W4PXE, will conduct the training.

This is an excellent chance to learn more about traffic handling and participate in a formal roll call net.”

TAMPA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB REOPENS

The Tampa Amateur Radio Club will be holding a Grand Re-Opening, Saturday, July 31st from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.

After being closed to its members for more than a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, TARC will be hosting a day of celebration as it opens its doors to members and guests.

There will free food and drinks; outdoor games; and continuous tours of the newly



As of press time, the 15 training slots had already been filled and you may send your information to Dave Rockwell W4PXE to be put on a standby list in case someone is unable to do the training and gives up their seat. However, anyone is free to listen in on the training nets for new or refresher training. The Eagle Net is conducted daily at 2030 on the NI4CE Repeater System to handle NTS traffic within, into and out of the ARRL West Central Florida Section.

upgraded radio room.

There will be opportunity to operate the new Flex 6400 and if available, listen to satellites as they pass over.

Safety protocols will be in place with much of the activity being held outside.

The [TARC club](#) house is located at: 7801 N. 22nd ST; Tampa, 33610.

NORMAN XANDERS WX4NEX APPOINTED AS AN ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGER

On Tuesday May 4, 2021, Mike Douglas W4MDD, Section Manager of the ARRL West Central Florida Section, appointed Norman Xanders WX4NEX to be the new Section Emergency Coordinator for the ARRL West Central Florida Section. Xanders succeeds Ben Henley KI4IGX, who had been Section Emergency Coordinator since January 2015 and has been in poor health recently.

Xanders was originally licensed in late 2016. Xanders has been a storm chaser for over 20 years here in central Florida, specifically in Polk County. One day Xanders got the RadarScope app for his smartphone and was looking at other Spotters on the map and saw some with call signs, inquired into it, and found out they were part of a Skywarn Net. This is where Xanders began his amateur radio journey. Since becoming licensed, Xanders has volunteered



extensively for Polk County ARES as a net control operator.

Xanders then became an Assistant Net Manager, and

then Net Manager for the Polk County ARES Net. In 2019, Xanders became the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Operations for Polk County ARES. Xanders also serves as a net control station for the National Weather Service SKYWARN Information Net, which is held on the NI4CE Repeater System every Tuesday at 2100 hours. Recently, Xanders had been appointed and was serving as an Assistant Section Manager as Liaison to the National Weather Service Office in Ruskin.

LAKE WALES RADIO AMATEURS OFFER FREE LICENSING EXAMS

The Lake Wales Radio Amateurs (LWRA) will resume FREE ham license testing July 3, at the Winter Haven American Red Cross building. See LWRA.US website for details. NO WALK-INS.

Test for Technician Class or upgrade your current license. Test on Saturday and when you pass, you'll have a new callsign and license or an upgrade the following

Monday.

Test FREE with the LWRA Laurel VEC team now. \$35 FCC licensing fee is not far off, so hit the study material and test on the first Saturday in July.

The LWRA TESTING will remain FAST AND FREE, even after the new FCC fees go into effect this summer.

A HIGH-FLYING SPECIAL EVENT STATION

A High-Flying Special Event Station
From April 13 through April 17 the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club operated Special Event Station W4S during the 2021 Sun'n Fun Aerospace Expo. This year's station was headed up by Geoff Schuck, WA4MMO and Todd Rush, W7STR. The station ended with 128 QSOs in the log, limited primarily by the operators having a hard time hearing

(airshows every afternoon are great for spectators but wreak havoc with radio operators!).

Everyone involved had a great time and generated lots of positive publicity for the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club and for Amateur Radio. Next year's expo is on the calendar for April 5-10, 2022 and LARC is planning to be there!



Mike Shreve, N6MRS



W4S



W4S C47

George Mann, KJ4UW

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

6/12/21

2nd Annual Pre-Field Day Tailgator

Dade City Masonic Lodge No. 48,
F&AM of Florida
13642 21st Street South,
Dade City, FL 33523

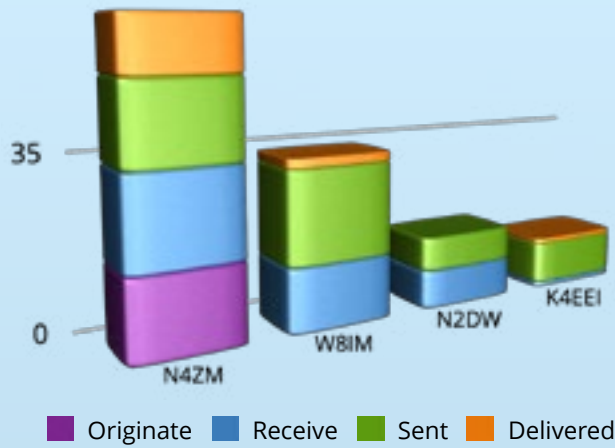


SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT

by Doug Williams N2DW
Section Traffic Manager, ARRL West Central Florida Section

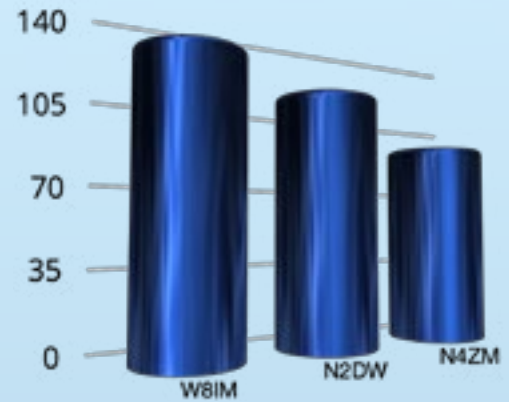
West Central Florida STM Reports
March 2021

70 — Station Activity Reports (SAR)



Call Sign	Originate	Receive	Sent	Delivered	Total
N4ZM	16	18	16	11	61
W8IM	0	13	19	2	34
N2DW	0	8	7	0	15
K4EEI	0	1	9	1	11

Public Service Honor Roll



Call Sign	Total
W8IM	123
N2DW	110
N4ZM	90

West Central Net Activity Reports

Net Name	Sessions	Stations	Traffic	Minutes	Manager
EAGLE NET	30	1363	35	945	W4PXE
SPARC	39	747	50	1352	KN4LUZ
CERT (St. Pete)	2	32	2	61	KN4LUZ
WCF ARES	5	158	0	192	KM4WXX
SQUARES	4	69	4	54	W4INK
SARASOTA ERC	5	91	3	84	KB4ICN
SARASOTA DIG	5	43	122	340	KG7KIQ

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	Jim Peterson AF2W
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.