

THE WCF PRESSER



WCF Country
West Central Florida Section

The Newsletter of the ARRL West Central Florida Section

July 2019

Issue # 39

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Section Emergency Coordinator

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Technical Coordinator

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SECTION MANAGERS MUSINGS

by Darrell Davis, KT4WX

ARRL West Central Florida Section Manager

Welcome to the month of July and the July issue of the WCF PRESSER. It was HOT HOT HOT in the month of June was it not? It seems like June, was hotter than any I can previously remember or is it that I am getting older and do not handle the heat as well as I used to. I have never liked the heat anyway and I am a second generation Polk County native. Since I am on the subject of the summer heat, do not forget to be safe during this summer heat. Be sure to stay hydrated and drink a lot of water and or other drinks that replenish electrolytes that you will lose when you sweat. Also, try to restrain your more strenuous activities to the cooler parts of the day, if possible.

We are now in the second month of the 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season, so keep



your eyes on the tropical Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico. Check the latest Tropical Weather Outlook which is issued four times a day by the National Hurricane Center. Just because NOAA has forecast an average hurricane season does not mean we are safe by any means. Remember last year's hurricane season was forecast was revised in August and forecast to be below normal level and look what happened. Hurricane Michael made landfall in the Florida Panhandle in early

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SECTION MANAGERS MUSINGS (CON'T)

October, preceded by Hurricane Florence making landfall in the Carolinas in September. So keep a check on your supplies and equipment in case our services as amateur radio operators are needed. Also take advantage of any exercises and or training opportunities that come your way to keep your skills sharp. Tools that are never used can get rusty, so do not let your skills get rusty. Consider doing a contest or working special event stations for practice. Participate on some of our local HF traffic nets, if you have a General or Extra license, and handle some traffic. Handling ARRL Radiograms is a great way to practice sending and receiving messages with accuracy. Participate in the Eagle Net, our Section Traffic Net, which is on the NI4CE Repeater System, which allows amateur radio operators of all classes to participate. If you hear any traffic that is for your local area, step up, and take it. There are those on the net who will help you if you are new to traffic handling.

I am wishing all of you a very Happy Independence Day. Living in the United States gives us all an unprecedented level of freedom, compared to quite a number of places around the world. Our Founding Fathers, true to their pledge in the Declaration of Independence, gave their lives, fortunes, and their sacred honor to bring this nation into being. Many in our armed forces have made sacrifices, and some the ultimate sacrifice, to keep our freedom. As you spend time with your family and friends barbecuing, and or watching fireworks in the evening, take a moment and reflect on how we got our freedom and be thankful for it.

Until next time, 73.

SUMMER QUARTERLY ARES MEETING

The Summer 2019 West Central Florida Section ARES Meeting is scheduled for Saturday July 13, 2019 at the Highlands County EOC in Sebring at 1300. Preceding the Section ARES meeting, there will be the traditional Section ARES Luncheon at the Sebring Diner at 1100, which is located at 4040 U.S. 27 South in Sebring just a couple of miles north of the Highlands County EOC. For more information on the Section ARES Luncheon, including location and directions, go to <http://arrlwcf.org/event/wcf-section-ares-luncheon-summer-2019/>.



The Fall 2019 West Central Florida Section ARES Meeting will be tentatively held on Saturday October 19, 2019 at the Hillsborough County EOC and the Section ARES Luncheon will be somewhere nearby.

COMING HAMFESTS IN THE SECTION

August 17, 2019

TARCFest XLVI

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



October 26, 2019

Gulf Coast ARC

Millennium Academy
10005 Ridge Road
New Port Richey, FL 34652



September 21, 2019

Pasco County Hamfest - Fall 2019

Gunn Highway Flea Market
2317 Gunn Highway
Odessa, FL 33556

November 9, 2019

SPARC Fest 2019

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



NORM FUSARO W3IZ TO BE THE ARRL REPRESENTATIVE AT THE 2019 TAMPA BAY HAMFEST

Norm Fusaro W3IZ will be the ARRL Headquarters representative at the 2019 Tampa Bay Hamfest and ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention.

The 19th Annual ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention, will be held in conjunction with the 2019 Tampa Bay Hamfest on Friday December 13, 2019 and Saturday December 14, 2019.



Norm Fusaro - W3IZ

For more information on the 2019 Tampa Bay Hamfest you may go to the Tampa Bay Hamfest website at <http://www.fgcarc.org>.

Fusaro is the Director of Operations at ARRL Headquarters and is responsible for the programs and services that create value for members of the ARRL. These programs include; DXCC and awards; LoTW; ARRL Lab and Technical Information Service; W1AW; QST and publications; ARES and Emergency Preparedness; Affiliated Clubs and Field Services; Regulatory Information; and VEC license exams.

In addition to his work at HQ, Fusaro works with other IARU societies promoting on-the air activity.

Fusaro has been a licensed Amateur since 1984, is now an Extra class operator, and enjoys contesting and DXing and casual operating on the HF bands. Before joining the staff at ARRL Headquarters, Fusaro had taught many Amateur Radio licensing classes and has mentored dozens of hams.

Fusaro is originally from Pennsylvania and grew up in Philadelphia and the surrounding suburbs. He and his wife Debbie, W3DAF now reside in Bristol, CT.

COUNTY PARKS ON THE AIR STILL UNDERWAY THROUGH THE END OF 2019.

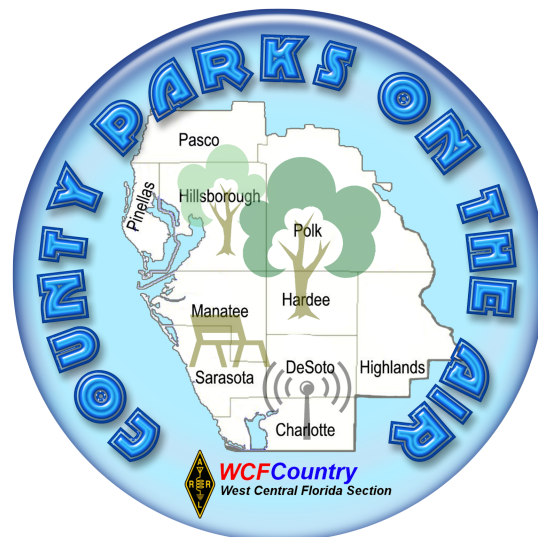
Just a reminder that County Parks On The Air is underway now through December 31, 2019. This is a great opportunity to get out and sharpen your operating skills and also test your portable equipment setup as well. The list of county parks and the event rules is on the CPOTA web page which is on the Section website at <http://arrlwcfc.org/wcf-special-events/countyparks-on-the-air/>. We hope to see an increase in activity particularly as the fall and early winter approaches. If you have HF mobile, consider even pulling up in a county Park and operating from your vehicle.

Following some previous suggestions, if you do not have a Facebook account and wish to do a County Park on the Air Activation, please email that information to Darrell Davis KT4WX, our Section Manager and he will post it to the County Parks On The Air Facebook page for viewing. Please send that information one week or more in advance of your planned activation.

If you already have a Facebook account you are encouraged to post it directly to the County Parks On The Air Facebook page. Thanks for your understanding.

We are working a Facebook plug in for the Section website so you can see the latest CPOTA postings as well. There will be a WCF SECTION PRESS RELEASE to announce when that is complete.

The purpose for the County Parks On The Air Facebook page is:



- (1) For activators to register their intent to activate a county park on a certain date, time, bands, modes, and or frequencies they intend to operate upon.
- (2) Post pictures of activations either in progress or recently completed.
- (3) Show pictures of stations and or related equipment used for an activation or planned activation.
- (4) Share general statistics from a recent activation or a chase to share his statistics of operation.

Anyone may post to the Facebook page but we ask that everyone keep your posts civil and without any obscene, indecent, or profane language. Any posts that violate these rules will be removed by a page administrator. We thank everyone for their understanding on this matter.

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	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	Geoff Haines N1GY
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 NET ABBREVIATION AND CANCELLATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

The following net cancellations are scheduled for the month of July.

- The West Central Florida Section Technical Net will be conducted but will be abbreviated on Thursday July 4th in observance of Independence Day. The West Central Florida Section Technical Net will resume normal operation on Thursday July 11th
- The Section ARES and Information Net on 3940 KHz on Saturday July 13th will be cancelled due to the Section ARES Luncheon and Section ARES Meeting being held in Highlands County. The Section ARES and Information Net on 3940 KHz will resume on Saturday July 20th.

All other Section nets will run as scheduled during the month of July.



SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT

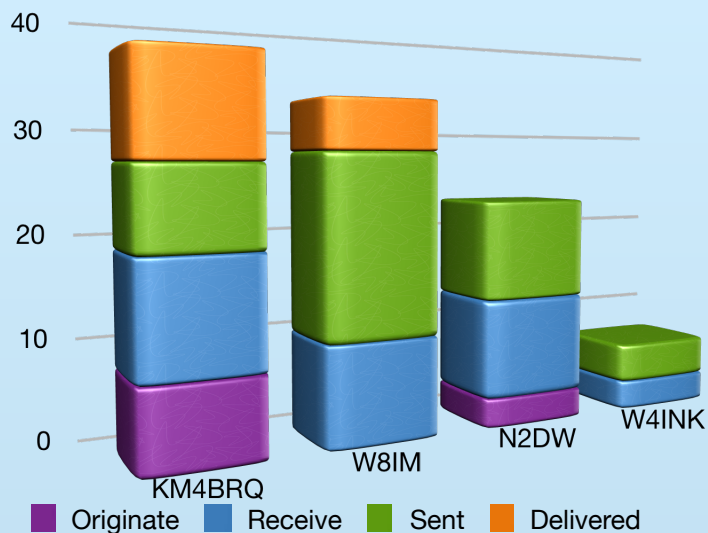
by Doug Williams N2DW

Section Traffic Manager, ARRL West Central Florida Section

West Central Florida STM Reports

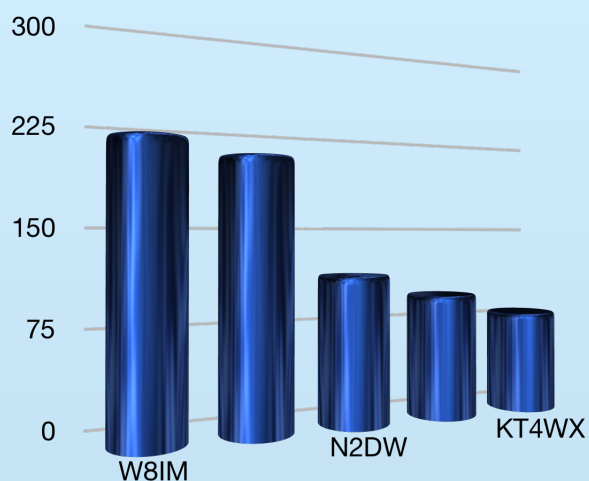
May 2019

Station Activity Reports (SAR)



Call Sign	Originate	Receive	Sent	Delivered	Total
KM4BRQ	8	11	8	10	37
W8IM	0	10	18	5	33
N2DW	3	10	10	0	23
W4INK	0	3	4	0	7

Public Service Honor Roll



Call Sign	Total
W8IM	213
KM4BRQ	202
N2DW	114
W4INK	97
KT4WX	80

West Central Net Activity Reports

Net Name	Sessions	Stations	Traffic	Minutes	Manager
EAGLE NET	30	1405	46	1026	W4PXE
SPARC	39	525	38	1023	KK4WTE
CERT	4	23	0	43	KK4WTE

19TH ANNUAL FIELD DAY CARAVAN A SUCCESS

On Saturday June 22, the 19th Annual ARRL West Central Florida Section Field Day Caravan took to the roads of the West Central Florida

Section. For the second year in a row we had three teams out doing the caravan.

Team #1 consisted of Darrell Davis KT4WX, Section Manager and Christine Duez K4KJN, Section Youth Coordinator and covered the area of northern Hillsborough, northern Pinellas, and Pasco Counties.

Team #2 consisted of Mike Douglas W4MDD, Affiliated Club Coordinator and Steve Muller KM4VRK, Assistant Section Manager, and covered southern Hillsborough, southern Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, and Charlotte Counties.

Team #3 consisted of Ben Henley KI4IGX, Section Emergency Coordinator and Randy Payne K4EZM, Assistant Section Manager and covered Polk, Hardee, Highlands, and Desoto Counties.

Our three teams visited a total of 20 Field Day sites with a combined total of almost 700 miles traveled.

Here are some highlights from numerous pictures taken by the Field Day Caravan. For all the pictures that were taken by the Field Day Caravan you may go to the Section Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/arrlwcfl>.

The Field Day sites were quite varied with some unusual Field Day sites in the mix. Some of the more unusual operations were

- (1) Three clubs going together in Pinellas County (Clearwater Amateur Radio Society, St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club, and Upper Pinellas Amateur Radio Club) with a new location at the Clearwater Fire College and taking advantage of their training towers to mount antennas from.
- (2) One club (East Pasco Amateur Radio Society) operating from a former train station which is the San Antonio Train Depot and Museum.
- (3) One club (Charlotte Amateur Radio Society) operating from a boat in a canal.
- (4) One club (Peace River Repeater Association) operating from the Punta Gorda Boat Club right along the Peace River where it goes out into the Gulf of Mexico.

Look for the Field Day results in QST magazine in the December issue.



