

## **THE WCF PRESSER: ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION NEWS**

**Issue #8 – August 2015**

**By Darrell Davis KT4WX**

**ARRL West Central Florida Section Manager**

### **GET SOME RELIEF FROM THE HEAT OR EXCESSIVE RAIN – WORK ON A CONSTRUCTION PROJECT ON YOUR WORKBENCH**

I know it is the hottest time of the year normally, but since late July we have persistent surface low pressure in the eastern Gulf of Mexico that is affecting the West Central Florida Section. As a result we have had a pattern of excessive rain for the last part of July. In doing your amateur radio activities be aware of your exposure to the heat or if the day is humid and overcast, the heat index (combined temperature and humidity) can be just as dangerous. Do not get dehydrated as it can happen very fast and before you realize it. Try to do your antenna and mobile installation work early in the day before it gets too hot and or takes frequent breaks in the middle of the day. Drink plenty of water or other drinks that put essential electrolytes back into you than you lose in perspiration. This is the time of the year that is best for doing construction projects on the workbench, that is hopefully air conditioned. Folks in the northern states do their construction projects more in the winter, we do ours in the summer to escape the heat or excessive heat index.

### **STATION APPOINTEE MONTHLY REPORTS ARE DUE FOR JULY:**

If you are serving as an ARRL Station Appointee, please be sure to file a monthly report by the 5th day of the month following the month being reported. If you still have not sent in your monthly report, please go ahead and do so anyway. For example for the month of January, your report would be due by February 5th. To those who have been filing their monthly reports, a sincere thank you for your effort. You can fill out te and fill out your monthly report there. Go to the section in the menu called Section Forms which is at <http://arrlwcf.org/section-forms/> or select the appropriate report form in the Section Forms menu. Upon successful submission you will receive an on screen confirmation and almost immediately you will receive an email confirmation for your records that also goes to the Cabinet member that oversees your program. Your report is then filed and you are all done for the month. Regular reporting is an ARRL requirement to hold an ARRL Station Appointment.

### **UPCOMING HAMFESTS IN THE SECTION:**

We are out of hamfest season until November. However, we have two hamfests coming up in the Section between now and November.

- Saturday August 22: TARCfest #34 – TARC Clubhouse – Tampa, FL
- Saturday September 12: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual LambieFest – Tropical Gulf Acres Clubhouse – Punta Gorda, FL
- Saturday September 26: 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Pasco County Hamfest – Gunn Highway Flea Market, Odessa, FL

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

## **2016 ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION COMING TO ORLANDO HAMCATION THIS HAMFEST SEASON:**

The ARRL Board of Directors voted at the ARRL Board of Directors meeting in July, to designate the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Orlando Hamcation, February 12-14 2016, as the site of the 2016 ARRL National Convention. The 2016 Orlando Hamcation will be a ARRL Expo with an extra ARRL Headquarters presence. Be sure to mark this one in your hamfest calendar for the upcoming hamfest season.

## **THE WCF SECTION INFORMATION AND SECTION ARES NET HAVE MERGED. HF SECTION ARES AND INFORMATION NET CONTINUES OPERATION**

Effective Monday July 27<sup>th</sup>, the ARRL West Central Florida Section (WCF) Information Net on Tuesday merged with the ARRL West Central Florida Section ARES Net on Monday evening at 1930 (7:30 P.M.). This move will streamline net operations for the Section and most importantly help avoid scheduling conflicts as many participants had commitments on Tuesday evenings to local radio club nets, ARES nets, local radio club meetings, and local radio club or ARES meetings.

The newly combined WCF Section ARES and Information Net will continue to meet on Monday evening at 1930 (7:30 P.M.) on the NI4CE Repeater System with J.C. Rivero K4RTC serving as Net Manager for the combined net. J.C. is looking for volunteers to serve as Net Control, so a net control schedule can be established. If you wish to volunteer, please contact Darrell Davis KT4WX via email at [kt4wx@arrl.net](mailto:kt4wx@arrl.net).

The WCF Section ARES and Information HF Net will continue to meet on Saturday morning at 0830 (8:30 A.M.) on 3911 KHz, which meets mostly on 3913 KHz, with Neil Lauritsen W4NHL, Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator continuing in his position as Net Manager.

## **BILL BODE N4WEB IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE TO SCOUTING AWARD**

Bill Bode N4WEB, an ARRL Official Emergency Station and President of the Tampa Amateur Radio Club is the first recipient of the new ARRL Amateur Radio Service To Scouting Award, in the ARRL West Central Florida Section. Bill was nominated in May for this award in recognition of his service in working with the Boy Scouts promoting amateur radio.



The award was presented to Bode at the Tampa Amateur Radio Club (TARC) clubhouse, when the ARRL Field Day Caravan stopped to visit the TARC Field Day site at their clubhouse, on Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>. The ARRL West Central Florida Section wishes to recognize and congratulate Bill for receiving this award from ARRL Headquarters. For more information on what the Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award is about you may go to <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-and-scouting>.

## JONATHAN “JON” RUBIN KJ4NYD APPOINTED AS THE NEW EMERGENCY COORDINATOR FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ARES.



On Saturday July 11, Jonathan “Jon” Rubin KJ4NYD was appointed as the new Emergency Coordinator for Hillsborough County ARES. Rubin was presented with his appointment at the quarterly ARRL West Central Florida Section ARES Meeting which was held at the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Center in Tampa, by Darrell Davis KT4WX, Section Manager.

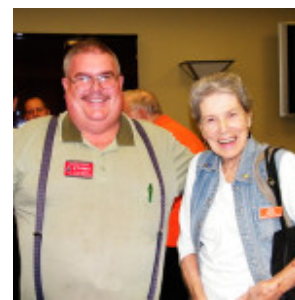
Keating Floyd KC4HSI, decided to step down as Emergency Coordinator for Hillsborough County ARES, after serving as EC since December 11, 2009. Floyd was presented with an ARRL Certificate of Merit by Davis and was accepted on Floyd’s behalf by Bill Williams AG4QX, one of the Assistant Emergency Coordinators for Hillsborough County ARES.

The ARRL West Central Florida Section wishes to thank Floyd for his five and a half years of service as EC for Hillsborough County and wishes him well in his future endeavors.



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTH OF JULY:

On Monday July 6<sup>th</sup>, I attended a special meeting of the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club, where former ARRL HQ staff member Ellen White W1YL was the special guest speaker. It was an honor and privilege to meet Ellen who was an integral part of the history of the ARRL. Ellen worked at the ARRL from the early 1950's until the late 1970's. After retiring, she and her husband Bob W1CW (SK), an ARRL staff member also, moved to Homestead and were Hurricane Andrew survivors.



On Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>, Ben Henley KI4IGX - Section Emergency Coordinator conducted, Randy Payne K4EZM - Assistant Section Manager, Doug Williams N2DW - Section Traffic Manager, Christine Duez KK4KJN - Section Youth Coordinator, and I attended the quarterly WCF Section ARES meeting at the Hillsborough County EOC. A very informative meeting and training session.

On Thursday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, I made it, somewhat late, to the Polk County ARES meeting at the Polk County EOC and got to spend time with some of the members of Polk County ARES after their meeting had concluded.

On Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup>, Christine Duez KK4KJN and I attended the Lake Wales Radio Amateurs (LWRA) monthly radio expedition held at Mary Holland Park, in Bartow. In spite of drenching rain, I was able to setup my ARES Go-Kit and try out an antenna tuner I built the day before.

## **AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 COMPANION BILL (S 1685) INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE, 94 COSPONSORS OF THE HOUSE BILL (HR-1301):**

US House Representative [Adam Kinzinger](#) (R-IL) introduced the bill on March 4 with 12 original co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle: seven Republicans and five Democrats. Since the last issue of THE WCF PRESSER was published, US Senator [Roger Wicker](#) (R-MS) introduced S 1685 on June 26, with Senator [Richard Blumenthal](#) (D-CT) as the original cosponsor, into the United States Senate. HR1301, the original House bill is now up to 94 co-sponsors as of July 29. As of June 25, two Representatives with districts that are in the West Central Florida Section: Representative Daniel Webster, 10<sup>th</sup> District, that covers the north central part of Polk County and Representative Tom Rooney, 17<sup>th</sup> District, that covers Charlotte, Desoto, Hardee, Highlands, southeastern Hillsborough, eastern Manatee, and southern Polk Counties.

The ARRL has moved and expanded the web page devoted to the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015. The direct link is <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>. Look at this page for information on how to send a letter to your Representative or Senator, the current list of co-sponsors, etc. Check out the latest news article on the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 from Monday June 29 at <http://www.arrl.org/news/senate-sponsor-of-amateur-radio-parity-act-of-2015-said-bill-promotes-regulatory-transparency-equali>.

The following is a summary quote from the ARRL website, "The Amateur Radio Parity Act would require the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply the three-part test of the [PRB-1](#) federal pre-emption policy to include homeowners association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as 'covenants, conditions, and restrictions' (CC&Rs). At present, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances. The FCC has been reluctant to extend the same legal protections to include private land-use agreements without direction from Congress."

Writing a letter to your Representative or Senator is the best method to ask him to support the Amateur Radio Parity Act. The ARRL is recommending that you send your letter to the ARRL for two reasons: (1) Because of security concerns, it can take from six to eight weeks for a letter sent directly to a Congressional office to be delivered and (2) It can be combined with other letters to your Congressman and hand-delivered to their office on Capitol Hill.

## **SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT FOR JULY 2015**

**By Doug Williams N2DW:**

### **Station Activity Reports (SAR):**

<b>N2DW:</b>	<b>Originated 0, Received 8, Sent 6, Delivered 1, and Total 15</b>
<b>W8IM:</b>	<b>Originated 0, Received 26, Sent 30, Delivered 9, and Total 65</b>
<b>W4PXE:</b>	<b>Originated 1, Received 19, Sent 29, Delivered 2, and Total 51</b>
<b>K4EEI</b>	<b>Originated 0, Received 83, Sent 67, Delivered 3, and Total 153</b>
<b>W2SU</b>	<b>Originated 0, Received 6, Sent 2, Delivered 3, and Total 11</b>

### **Public Service Honor Roll:**

<b>N2DW</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>W8IM</b>	<b>105</b>

## **SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT FOR JULY 2015 (Continued)**

### **West Central Florida Section Net Activity Reports:**

**AIN:** Sessions 3, Stations 32, Traffic 1, Minutes 41  
Net Manager – WA4ATF

**EAGLE NET:** Sessions 30, Stations 1096, Traffic 48, Minutes 977  
Net Manager – W4PXE

**SPARC NET:** Sessions 37, Stations 535, Traffic 43, Minutes 848  
Net Manager – W4TS

### **CHECK OUT THE SECTION WEBSITE IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO LATELY**

If you have not done so lately, check out all the information that is posted on the Section website at <http://www.arrlwcf.org>. The latest WCF SECTION PRESS RELEASES, upcoming special events, monthly meetings, etc., are all posted there. We will be adding more content to the Section website here in the next 30-60 days, including completion of the monthly local club meeting and VE test session calendar, local radio net schedule, and lists of the various ARRL Station Appointee that serve you here in the West Central Florida Section. Check the website and check it often.

### **SECTION MANAGERS CONTACT INFORMATION AND CONCLUSION:**

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](mailto:kt4wx@arrl.org)
- Website: <http://www.kt4wx.org>.

The Section also has a website, Facebook and Twitter pages. The URL for those are:

- Website: <http://www.arrlwcf.org>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/arrlwcf>
- Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/arrlwcf>

That is all for this issue of THE WCF PRESSER. 73 de Darrell KT4WX