

**Section Manager**  
Mike Douglas W4MDD

**Assistant Section Manager  
SM Emeritus**  
Darrell Davis, KT4WX

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

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

**Assistant Section Manager  
Skywarn Liasion**  
Norman Xanders, WX4NEX

**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

**Assistant Section Manager**  
Ben Henley, KI4IGX

**Section Traffic Manager**  
Doug Williams, N2DW

**Section Emergency Coordinator**  
Christine Duez, KK4KJN

**Section Youth Coordinator**  
Christine Duez, KK4KJN

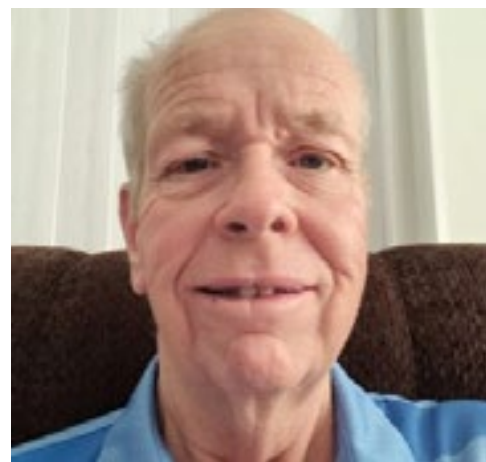
**Technical Coordinator**  
Darrell Davis, KT4WX

## SECTION MANAGER'S MUSINGS

**BY MIKE DOUGLAS, W4MDD**  
**ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION MANAGER**

### HELLO WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION!

Looks like October is shaping up to be a busy month, hurricanes notwithstanding. Keeping my fingers crossed that the hurricanes continue to stay away. Also hoping that Covid-19 wanes. I'm sure a lot of us are experiencing cabin fever in this area of Florida. I know I am for sure.



October will be a busy month for hamfests, October 8-9 will be the Melbourne hamfest, hope many of you will be able to attend. There are also a couple of hamfests in the WCF Section, please look at the upcoming hamfest section of the WCF ARRL website.

That is all I have for now.

Mike, W4MDD

## NEW EMERGENCY COORDINATOR FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY RECENTLY APPOINTED

On Tuesday April 27, 2021, Mike Douglas W4MDD, Section Manager of the ARRL West Central Florida Section, appointed Tom Chance K9XV, to be the new ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Charlotte County. Chance succeeds Jon Pellant W1JP, who had been ARRL Emergency Coordinator since December 2018.



Chance was first licensed as Novice class in 1972, at the age of twelve, after being introduced to amateur radio by his uncle Bob W9PSE when he was only eight years old. Chance upgraded to General class in 1974, after passing a 13 word per minute Morse code exam and received the callsign WB9KWS. (To upgrade to General class before April 15, 2000, passing a 13 word per minute Morse code exam was required.) Chance is a member of the Florida Contest Group, a past member of the Society of Midwest Contesters, and one of the founders of the Innovations in

DX and Contesting which operates with the callsign W9VW. Chance has extensive experience in emergency communications. In 2000, Chance became a member of SEMA (State of Indiana Emergency Management) which after September 11th, 2001 became the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS). Chance during this time supported IDHS with amateur radio communications via HF and various repeaters.

In 2015, Chance relocated from the Indianapolis, Indiana area to Charlotte County. It was after relocating, that Chance began to research Winlink and “Winlink like” systems for use in emergency communications. Chance has served in Charlotte County ARES for several years.

Chance in his professional career worked for Dell-EMC as a Software System Architect and Engineer developing new software and processes to analyze existing compute and storage systems to assist the solution architects in the field to design new solutions. Chance graduated from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis in 1982 with a degree in Electrical Engineering, specializing in analog and digital systems designs.

## UPCOMING SKYWARN TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FALL 2021

The National Weather Service Office in Ruskin has announced on the NWS Ruskin SKYWARN a couple of SKYWARN training opportunities for the Fall of 2021. At the present time, the National Weather Service Office in Ruskin is only conducting SKYWARN training classes in virtual format. The following virtual SKYWARN training classes have been scheduled:

Wednesday, September 29th, 2021  
from 1300-1400 EDT. Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8917568584034608144>.

Wednesday, October 20th, 2021  
from 1300-1400 EDT. Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3217792664681561867>.

There is available on the National Weather Service Office Ruskin SKYWARN page, a pre-recorded one-hour SKYWARN training class, and links to other SKYWARN training classes that are administered by Spotter Network and Met-Ed. The hyperlink to the National Weather Service Office SKYWARN page is <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/skywarn>



## TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB FOXHUNT CANCELED

The Tamiami Amateur Radio Club Foxhunt 2021 that was scheduled for Saturday October 23, 2021, has been canceled.



The following statement was issued by Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR, Event Director for the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club concerning the cancellation, "It is with great regret that we have decided to cancel the October 23rd first annual Tamiami Fox Hunt. A number of factors, not the least of which are lingering concerns over Covid-19, have contributed to this decision. All advance registration fees will be returned in full. If you do not receive your refund by September 24, 2021, please contact the undersigned immediately. We hope to try this event again when conditions are more conducive to having a successful and fun event.

## GULF COAST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TAILGATE FALL 2021 CANCELED. RESCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 2022

On September 27, 2021, Carl Ekblad AJ4JA, Chairman of the Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club Fall 2021 Tailgate Hamfest, announced that the Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club Fall 2021 Tailgate Hamfest has been cancelled due to concerns from COVID-19.



The hamfest is being rescheduled for January 15, 2022. The location will still be the Millennium Academy at 10005 Ridge Road in New Port Richey and the time will still be from 0800 through 1200 EDT. For hamfest information as it becomes available you may go to the Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club website at <http://gulfcoastarc.com>.



## 8TH ANNUAL TECHCON - ARRL CONVENTION STATUS HAS BEEN APPROVED

The date for the 8th Annual TECHCON, the Annual Technical Conference for the ARRL West Central

on the Section's YouTube channel immediately after the conclusion of TECHCON which is located at <https://>



Florida Section, is Friday February 25, 2022 and Saturday February 26, 2022. The venue for the 8th Annual TECHCON will be the Polk County Emergency Operations Center, located between Winter Haven and Lakeland in Polk County. The 7th Annual TECHCON, held in February of this year, had been scheduled to take place at the Polk County Emergency Operations Center, but became a virtual event only via Zoom due to concerns from COVID-19.

The 8th Annual TECHCON will be a face-to-face conference as it has been in years past but also will be available for viewing via Zoom teleconferencing. The 8th Annual TECHCON will see a resumption of the Friday Afternoon Workshop and Friday Evening Social. The presentations for TECHCON will be recorded and available for viewing

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCFA4-HEjr-LYMFisVG\\_Nk5A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFA4-HEjr-LYMFisVG_Nk5A).

The ARRL Convention Status has been secured for the 8th Annual TECHCON, which means it is now listed on the ARRL Hamfests and Conventions web page. It will also be listed in the ARRL News under upcoming hamfests and in QST as the time for TECHCON draws closer.

Registration for the 8th Annual TECHCON is now open. You may register to either attend or make a presentation for TECHCON at <http://arrlwcf.org/section-forms/wcftechconregistration/>.

For more information about TECHCON you may go to the TECHCON webpage on the Section website at <http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/>.

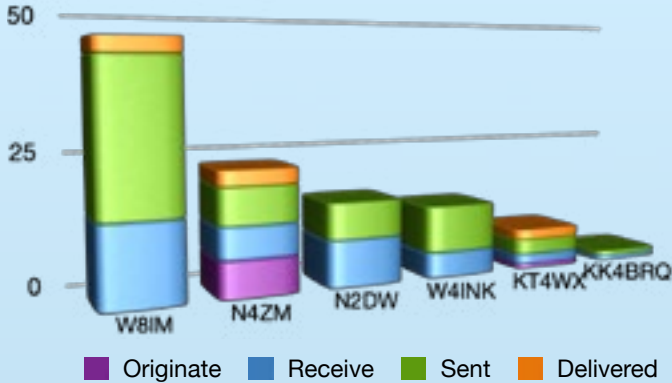


## SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT

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

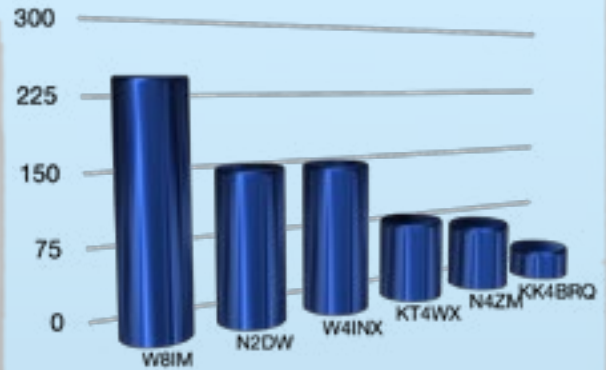
West Central Florida STM Reports  
July 2021

### Station Activity Reports (SAR)



Call Sign	Originate	Receive	Sent	Delivered	Total
W8IM	0	15	28	3	46
N4ZM	7	6	7	3	23
N2DW	0	9	7	0	16
W4INK	0	5	9	0	14
KT4WX	1	2	3	2	8
KK4BRQ	0	1	1	0	2

### Public Service Honor Roll



Call Sign	Total
W8IM	245
N2DW	156
W4INX	154
KT4WX	86
N4ZM	73
KK4BRQ	34

### West Central Net Activity Reports

Net Name	Sessions	Stations	Traffic	Minutes	Manager
EAGLE NET	30	1321	38	967	W4PXE
SPARC	40	705	51	1190	KN4LUZ
CERT (St. Pete)	2	30	2	50	KN4LUZ
WCF ARES	4	150	0	171	KM4WXX
SARASOTA EM	4	82	4	73	KB2ICN
SRQARES	5	90	3	79	W4INK
SARASOTA DIG.	4	32	82	315	KG7KIQ



## SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT

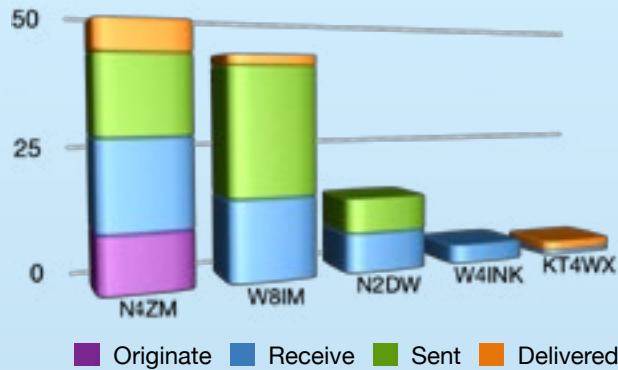
by Doug Williams N2DW

Section Traffic Manager, ARRL West Central Florida Section

West Central Florida STM Reports

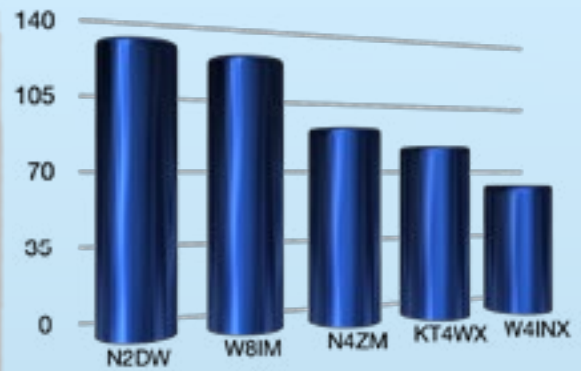
August 2021

### Station Activity Reports (SAR)



Call Sign	Originate	Receive	Sent	Delivered	Total
N4ZM	11	17	15	6	49
W8IM	0	16	25	2	43
N2DW	0	8	7	0	15
W4INK	0	4	0	0	4
KT4WX	0	1	0	2	3

### Public Service Honor Roll



Call Sign	Total
N2DW	125
W8IM	120
N4ZM	90
KT4WX	82
W4INX	63

### West Central Net Activity Reports

Net Name	Sessions	Stations	Traffic	Minutes	Manager
EAGLE NET	31	1286	39	950	W4PXE
SPARC	40	704	49	1298	KN4LUZ
CERT (St. Pete)	2	32	2	56	KN4LUZ
WCF ARES	5	188	2	207	KM4WXX
SARASOTA EM	4	77	2	76	KB2ICN
SRQARES	4	65	2	64	W4INK
SARASOTA DIG.	4	33	88	305	KG7KIQ

## NEW EMERGENCY COORDINATOR APPOINTED FOR PASCO COUNTY

On Tuesday July 27, 2021, Mike Douglas W4MDD, Section Manager of the ARRL West



Central Florida Section, appointed Tim Cunningham KM4YGV, to be the new ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Pasco County. Cunningham succeeds Bill Fetta N7CGC who stepped down

as ARRL Emergency Coordinator due to personal reasons. Fetta had served as ARRL Emergency Coordinator since June 2021. Fetta has stayed on as an Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Pasco County ARES.

Cunningham was first licensed in the middle of 2016 but had been interested in

amateur radio since he was a shortwave listener in the 1970's. Cunningham brings experience to the position he had obtained in his professional career as a Firefighter, having been out in the field for many weather events all over the State of Florida.

Cunningham made the following statement about his appointment as ARRL Emergency Coordinator, "My years in the fire department offered me boots on the ground experience during most of the big weather events all over Florida and many major fires throughout but as a worker bee, I was never invited into the air-conditioned comfort of the EOC, ICP. At Pasco County ARES/RACES, I've met a strong core of "retired" ARES former ECs and EOC managers that are mentoring me and assisting in building Pasco County ARES/RACES into a premier organization."

## EMERGENCY COORDINATOR REAPPOINTED AND NEW SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR APPOINTED

Christine Duez K4KJN was reappointed as ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Polk County ARES on Wednesday August 4th, 2021. Duez was reappointed as ARRL Emergency Coordinator due to Mike Shreve N6MRS stepping down as the ARRL Emergency Coordinator due to personal reasons. Duez had previously served as ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Polk County ARES from July 2020 through May 2021.

Duez was also appointed as Section Emergency Coordinator on Thursday August 5th, 2021, succeeding Norman Xanders

WX4NEX, who had been Section Emergency Coordinator since early May 2021.

Mike Douglas W4MDD, Section Manager of the ARRL West Central Florida Section made

the following statement concerning this reappointment and appointment, "I reappointed Christine Duez K4KJN, as ARRL Emergency Coordinator of Polk County.





I also appointed Christine as Section Emergency Coordinator to replace Norman Xanders WX4NEX. I take full responsibility for the way Christine was abruptly removed from the post of EC Polk County and for that

I apologize. Christine's removal should have never happened. Going forward I will not be pressured into making decisions I have not looked at first."

## NEW TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK EMAIL NOTIFICATION LIST UNVEILED

Joe Tomasone AB2M, an ARRL Technical Specialist here in the ARRL West Central Florida Section who created the ARESDB database in 2001 in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States, recently announced a new email list to which ARES, ACS, and CERT personnel may subscribe, to receive the National Hurricane Center Tropical Weather Outlook when it is issued four times a day during the Atlantic hurricane season and at other times as warranted.

To subscribe to this new Tropical Weather Outlook email dissemination list, you may sign up at <http://lists.aresdb.com/mailman/listinfo/tropicaloutlook>. The ARRL West Central Florida Section extends its sincere thanks to Joe Tomasone AB2M for creating this new service to amateur radio operators and for the continuous service of the ARESDB database for the past 20 years.

The image shows a web browser window displaying the 'TropicalOutlook -- Tropical Weather Outlook' page. The page has a blue header and a light yellow background. It contains several sections: 'About TropicalOutlook' with a language selector for 'English (USA)'; 'Using TropicalOutlook' with instructions on how to subscribe; 'Subscribing to TropicalOutlook' with a form for entering an email address, name, and password; and 'TropicalOutlook Subscribers' with a field for an admin address and password to view the subscriber list. A 'Subscribe' button is located at the bottom of the subscription form.

**TropicalOutlook -- Tropical Weather Outlook**

**About TropicalOutlook** English (USA)

Tropical weather outlook product from the National Hurricane Center, sent as often as the NHC issues it (normally 4x/day when there are potential or active systems).

**Using TropicalOutlook**

You can subscribe to the list, or change your existing subscription, in the sections below:

**Subscribing to TropicalOutlook**

Subscribe to TropicalOutlook by filling out the following form. You will be sent email requesting confirmation, to prevent others from gratuitously subscribing you. This is a hidden list, which means that the list of members is available only to the list administrator.

Your email address:

Your name (optional):

You may enter a privacy password below. This provides only mild security, but should prevent others from messing with your subscription. Do not use a valuable password as it will occasionally be emailed back to you in cleartext.

If you choose not to enter a password, one will be automatically generated for you, and it will be sent to you once you've confirmed your subscription. You can always request a mail-back of your password when you edit your personal options.

Pick a password:

Reenter password to confirm:

Which language do you prefer to display your messages? English (USA)

**TropicalOutlook Subscribers**

(The subscribers list is only available to the list administrator.)

Enter your admin address and password to visit the subscribers list:

Admin address:  Password:

To unsubscribe from TropicalOutlook, get a password reminder, or change your subscription options enter your subscription email address:

## 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	Sanford Wyatt KM4WXX
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.

## UPCOMING HAMFESTS

**10/23/2021**

**1st Annual Manatee Amateur Radio Club Swapfest**

Bible Baptist Church of Bradenton

2113 57th Street East

Bradenton, FL 34201

Website: <https://www.manatee-arc.org/>



**11/13/2021**

**SPARC Fest**

Freedom Lake Park

9990 46th St. N

Pinellas Park, FL 33780



**12/10-11/2021**

**Tampa Bay Hamfest, ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention**

Strawberry Festival Expo Building

301 Berryfest (was N. Lemon)

Plant City, FL 33564

Website: <http://www.fgcarc.org/>



**01/15/2021**

**Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club**

Millennium Academy

10005 Ridge Road

New Port Richey, FL 34652



**02/19/2022**

**Highlands County Amateur Radio Club Annual Hamfest**

First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine

111 Lake Josephine Drive

Sebring, FL 33870

Website: <http://highlandsamateurradio.com>



## TAMPA BAY HAMFEST 2021 BACK TO REGULAR FORMAT

The Tampa Bay Hamfest is back in its regular format and location for 2021. The Tampa Bay Hamfest will be held on Friday December 10th, 2021 and Saturday December 11th, 2021 at the Florida Strawberry Festival Expo Center in Plant City.

The Tampa Bay Hamfest will also host the ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention for 2021.

For detailed information about the Tampa Bay Hamfest, including tickets, swap tables, forums, etc., you may go to the The Tampa Bay Hamfest website located at <https://fgcarc.org>.

The following statement about the Tampa Bay Hamfest was made by Bill Williams AG4QX on the Tampa Bay Hamfest home page, "We are well past the worst in the

Covid pandemic and on the way to a much

better year. This improvement puts us on our way to a more normal Hamfest in December and I hope you all have noted December 10th and 11th on your calendar. Our plans are to return to the Florida Strawberry Festival grounds for a full inside expo hall and an even better tailgate this year.

As always, we welcome our many vendors and encourage early reservations as the Expo Hall space fills up quickly. Most vendors are particular as to where they want their booths and tables located so get your wants to us early on..."

**TAMPA BAY HAMFEST**





## BIKE MS CITRUS TOUR 2022 DATE SET. BIKE MS CITRUS TOUR VOLUNTEERS HELPING OUT WITH BIKE MS PGA CYCLE TO THE SHORE IN OCTOBER.

The date for the Bike MS Citrus Tour 2022 has been set for Saturday March 5, 2022 and Sunday March 6, 2022. The Bike MS Citrus Tour will start and finish both days at the Omni Resort at Champions Gate which is near the Osceola/Polk County line, with over 95 percent of the ride in the northern and eastern portions of Polk County. The ARRL West Central Florida Section has sponsored the amateur radio communications for the Bike MS Citrus Tour since 2018. The Bike MS Citrus Tour for 2021 was canceled due to concerns from COVID-19. For more information on the Bike MS Citrus Tour or to sign up to



A group of veteran Bike MS Citrus Tour volunteers have accepted the invitation to go up to the Northern Florida Section to assist with communications for the Bike MS PGA Tour Cycle to The Shore on

Saturday October 23, 2021 and Sunday October 24, 2021. that will run this year from St. Augustine to Daytona Beach near or along the Florida east coast.



volunteer to help with communications, please go to the amateur radio Bike MS Citrus Tour page at <https://www.citrustour.org/>



## THE HUMPDAY NET

Every Wednesday at 7:00 PM  
On the Brandon VHF Repeater  
147.165 MHz - PL 136.5  
Just east of Tampa  
Everybody's welcome

We also have a weekly email Humpday Net  
Newsletter - 73, Bob WB4AKA

## FREE HAM LICENSE TESTING

Next FREE ham license testing in Winter Haven, scheduled for the First Saturday of Each Month, at the American Red Cross building conducted by the Lake Wales Radio Amateurs. Testing for all classes of licenses. Go to [LWRA.US](http://LWRA.US) for more information. Click on "Becoming A Ham." Register for the next convenient testing date before 6 p.m. on the Thursday prior. No walk-in's allowed on test day.



Technician test on that Saturday, new call sign and license confirmed on Monday. No charge for testing. Upgrade on day of test after passing proper element(s).

Fast and FREE!

Lake Wales Radio Amateurs Club VE Team