THE WORF OF PRESSER WEFCOUNTY West Central Florida Section

> Oct / Nov 2020 Issue #54

SECTION MANAGERS MUSINGS BY DARRELL DAVIS, KT4WX ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION MANAGER

elcome to a combined October and November issue of the WCF PRESSER. We are having a combined issue due to sickness on my part in the month of October. I came down with a urinary tract infection on Sunday September 27 and finally got in to see my primary care physician, who is an amateur radio operator as well on Thursday October 1. The antibiotics I was prescribed. cured the infection but as is normal with me, took a lot of energy out of me and I did not have my normal energy levels until the last days of October. Suffice it to say that I was not up to helping to gather content for the WCF PRESSER so we missed in October.

To those who have sent it articles for the WCF PRESS-ER a sincere and heart felt thank you. However the WCF PRESSER is much better off



with good articles. If you have an article about a recent or upcoming club activity, please send it in to Jim Weslager K3WR via email at weslager@gmail.com. Others in the Section will enjoy reading about it and it may give others ideas to have a similar activity.

Thankfully we are in the final month of the 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season and what a season is has been! The 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season has broken nearly every record previously held in the record books: highest number of named storms, earliest named storms in sequence, only the second time to use Greek letters because

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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

The WCF PRESSER

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the named list was exhausted and the furthest into the Greek alphabet for names, and the highest numbers of landfalls in the United States for a single season, to name a few. Ironically as of the date I write this we have only one real close call with Eta and two other near misses. Remember the folks out in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama in your prayers and thoughts, as they have had a real rough year. As a reminder, our hurricane season does not end until the last day of this month. Stay tuned to the latest advisories from the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

I want to take the opportunity to wish our veterans out there a Happy Veterans Day, which is coming up about the time you read this. I always try to take the time to thank a veteran, when I see them, to let them know their service is appreciated. They gave up a portion of their life, had their lives changed forever, and some still deal with trauma they experienced during their time of service, to help preserve the freedom of others whom they often did not know personally. Some have made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. We owe our veterans much and let us never forget their service and sacrifice.

I also want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving holiday in a few weeks. Even though this year has been very different, with the COVID-19 virus turning our lives upside down in some respects and for some the 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season being a very very rough hurricane season, we still have much to be thankful for. We are still better off than many around the world, so we have much to be thankful for. Also be sure to spend some quality time with your family and friends, as some of them may be discouraged and need to know you care about them.

Until next month, which will be my last column to you as your Section Manager.

USA MOTOR COACH HAMFEST AND ROD RUN SCHEDULED FOR 11/14/20

The USA Motor Coach Hamfest and Rod Run is scheduled for Saturday November 14, 2020. The hamfest will be held at the USA Motor Coach facility located at 4501 Ulmerton Road, in Clearwater.

This hamfest was organized by members



of SPARC to replace the SPARCFest that

was scheduled for November 14, 2020, but was canceled due to COVID 19 restrictions placed upon Freedom Lake Park in Pinellas Park, FL.

The USA Motor

Coach Hamfest will be a hamfest tailgate and hot rod car show combined together. This will give amateur radio operators a somewhat unique opportunity to go to a tailgate hamfest and hot rod car show all at the same place and time. The hamfest will open at 0800 hours and there is no admission cost for those tailgating and or those attending. The organizers request that you wear a face mask when attending.

For all the details of the USA Motor Coach Hamfest and Rod Run you may go to the following website, which will include directions, a map, and other information: <u>https://bw.billl.net/usa-coach-ham-fest-</u> <u>and-rod-run/</u>.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2020 WHITE AWARD ARE NOW OPEN

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2020 White Award. This award is given each year to the amateur radio operator who has made the greatest Section Communications Manager in the 1950's, which was changed to Section Manager in 1979, and an ARRL staffer in numerous positions at ARRL Headquarters until her retirement.

Nominations can be made on the Contact Form on the Section website at <u>http://arrlwcf.org/sec-</u> tion-forms/contact-info/.

Nominations will close on Saturday December 5th, 2020 and the award will be presented to the recipient on Saturday December 12th, 2020 during the ARRL forum at the Tampa Bay Hamfest.

For more information on

contribution to amateur radio in the ARRL West Central Florida Section.

The White Award was instituted in 2016 in honor of Ellen White W1YL, who was a

the White Award you may go to the Section website at <u>http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-</u> <u>events/white-award/</u>.



SECTION NET CANCELLATIONS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

As is traditional with the holidays in November and December, the following nets will be canceled for the following occasions and holidays.

The ARRL West Central Florida Section Technical Net - Thursday 2100: Thursday November 26, 2020 will be canceled in observance of Thanksgiving, Thursday December 24, 2020 will be canceled in observance of Christmas, and Thursday December 31, 2020 in observance of New Years Day.





Thanksgiving, Saturday December 12, 2020 due to the Tampa Bay Hamfest, Saturday December 26, 2020 in observance of Christmas, and Saturday January 2, 2021 in observance of New Years Day.

The Eagle Net, our NTS traffic net that meets daily at 2030, will operate as scheduled during the holidays. There will be special sessions of the Eagle Net on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve with Darrell Davis KT4WX our Section Manager as Net Control. All other nets will resume normal operations on Monday January 4th, 2021.

The ARRL West Central Florida Section ARES and Information Net on the NI4CE Repeater System - Monday 1930: Monday December 21, 2020 will be canceled in observance of Christmas and Monday December 28, 2020 will be canceled in observance of New Years Day.

The ARRL West Central Florida Section ARES and Information Net on 3940 KHz - Saturday 0730: Saturday November 28, 2020 in observance of



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 Cen- tral 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.

COMING HAMFESTS IN THE SECTION

CANCELED

NOVEMBER 14

SPARCFEST 2020 Freedom Lake ParK, 9990 46th Street North Pinellas Park, FL, FL 33782



TAMPA BAY HAMFEST FRIDAY 12/11/20 & SATURDAY 12/12/20

Coming up on Friday

December 11, 2020 and Saturday December 12, 2020 is the 45th Annual Tampa Bay Hamfest and 20th Annual ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention. The Hamfest will take place at the Florida Strawberry Festival Grounds Expo Center In Plant City. Please mark your calendar for this event as this is our annual ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention.

If there are any changes as to whether the Tampa Bay Hamfest will be held or not held due to the COVID-19 situation, by the Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council, the organizer of the Tampa Bay Hamfest, a WCF SECTION PRESS RELEASE will be issued to announce any changes.

Please make plans to attend and support the largest hamfest in the ARRL West Central Florida Section.

For the latest information about the Tampa Bay Hamfest you may go their website at <u>http://www.fqcarc.org</u>.

The following information is from Bill Williams AG4QX, chairman of the Tampa Bay Hamfest about how this year's hamfest will work out:

"The hamfest this year will be outside only. There will be a 10 foot area between every tailgate space. That will allow social distancing but will also allow tailgaters to sell off the side of their space. If you unload and move your vehicle to the regular parking lot you will have a 16ft x 40ft area to sell from, either side.

Some of our commercial dealers will be on both sides of the Carriage House under the porch-like cover. Make sure you check both sides of the Carriage House.

The ARRL will be inside a booth on the west side of the Carriage house. It will include card checking, including 160M. Make sure you check both sides of the Carriage House.

Free club spaces have not been worked out yet. If your club desires a small space for a club table send a message using the CONTACT FORM button under the Contact Us heading. Remember a free club table is for marketing your club and no selling except club memberships. If your club or a member is buying a tailgate space to sell from your club can probably fit in there. Remember if you park your vehicles in regular parking then you have a 16ft by 40ft tailgate space open on three sides. And remember social distancing!

There will be no Forums as such but being the ARRL West Central Section and Florida State Convention there will be an ARRL Meeting in the ARMORY with representatives from the three Florida sections and the Southeast Division. Masks and social distancing will be enforced. You can also talk with your ARRL representatives at their booth on the West side of the Carriage House.

We have no information yet on the Future Farmers doing food. More information on food to follow.

We will have testing in the Armory from 10 AM to 12 noon on Saturday only. No reservations required, walk-ins are welcome. Be there by 11:15 at the latest. If you plan on taking more than one test make sure you are there early enough to take them all. Masks and social distancing will be enforced. Make sure you bring the required stuff, look it up in the testing section.

Commercial license testing is available with advanced registration required. Day and time can be adjusted to the test taker within reason. Use the above mentioned CONTACT FORM to let us know.

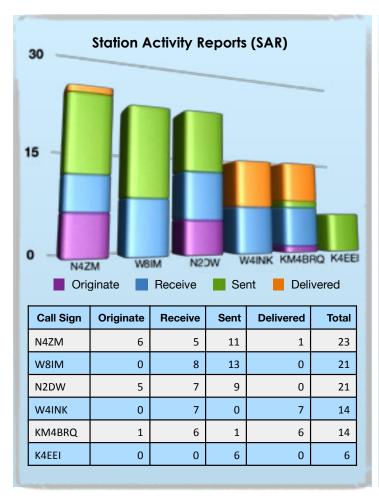
Since we are not renting the Expo Building this year we have dropped the price of admission to \$5, tailgate spaces are \$10. Limited electric is available at \$5."



SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT

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

West Central Florida STM Reports August 2020





Call Sign	Total
W4INK	111
N2DW	101
W4INK	97

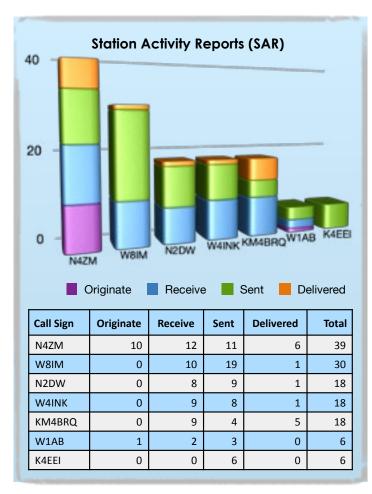
West Central Net Activity Reports					
Net Name	Sessions	Stations	Traffic	Minutes	Manager
EAGLE NET	31	1510	34	994	W4PXE
SPARC	40	722	48	1379	KN4LUZ
SRQUARES	4	70	1	69	KB2ICN
SARASOTA ERC	4	78	4	60	KB2ICN

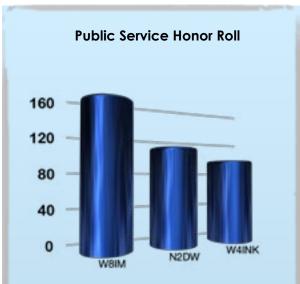


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by Doug Williams N2DW Section Traffic Manager, ARRL West Central Florida Section

West Central Florida STM Reports September 2020





Call Sign	Total
W8IM	155
N2DW	108
W4INK	95

West Central Net Activity Reports

Net Name	Sessions	Stations	Traffic	Minutes	Manager
EAGLE NET	30	1353	32	939	W4PXE
SPARC	30	601	40	1509	KN4LUZ
SRQUARES	4	61	3	61	KB2ICN
SARASOTA ERC	5	105	5	78	KB2ICN