



# **FIRST ANNUAL ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION TECHNICAL CONFERENCE**

**SATURDAY APRIL 4, 2015 - PRESENTATIONS LIST**

## **GROUNDING YOUR STATION - JOHN CHAPUT KK4LI**

What are the basics of grounding your station? John will go over some very practical techniques for grounding your installation to protect yourself from lightning.

## **DON'T THROW THAT OUT, I CAN MAKE A RADIO OUT OF THAT - GEOFF HAINES N1GY**

We should be open minded about what we use for parts or enclosures for the projects we build. A boom mic can be created from a desk lamp and some PVC. A pot handle can be the start of a desk mic. An old A/B Data switch can be the base for many projects. Materials need not be expensive nor ordered by mail to be effective.

## **BASIC NBEMS FOR THE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATOR - LARRY LAZAR KS4NB**

A simple tool for handling disaster related documents. No interfaces, no special cables, no technical background required... just a radio, computer and FREE, user-friendly software! This tool promotes interoperability and ensures uniformity, simplicity and success in FM emergency and traffic nets that pass complex documents such as FEMA, Red Cross, RadioGrams and other forms as well as spreadsheets or lengthy lists. Imagine... a list of 100 generic medicines may take over an hour by voice would take just two minutes, with 100% accuracy via Basic NBEMS with built-in error correction and redundancy!

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE PICAXE - DARRELL DAVIS KT4WX**

What is a PICAXE? The PICAXE is a great microcontrollers for beginners to start out with. The PICAXE will be described and what is needed to use it in your radio projects

## **INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL VOICE MODES - BEN HENLEY KI4IGX**

It seems like there is a new digital voice mode every year. The basics of digital voice will be explained and an overview of the digital voice modes will be given.

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE ARDUINO - DARRELL DAVIS KT4WX**

The Arduino is becoming very popular in amateur radio projects. The Arduino basics will be explained, the Arduino series will be overviewed and what is needed to use it in your radio projects.

## **HOW REPEATERS OPERATE - BEN HENLEY KI4IGX**

What happens at the repeater site? Is it magic? The basics of repeaters and their basic configurations will be explained.



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## **WCF TECHNICAL PROJECT FOR 2016 - BALLOON LAUNCH - BEN HENLEY AND DARRELL DAVIS KT4WX**

We are interested in doing a balloon launch in 2016 with an amateur radio telemetry package onboard. This presentation is to outline goals of the balloon flight and to gather a consensus from those attending in what you would like to see in the package and to put together a team to help facilitate the project.

## **QST Product Review; What Do All Those Numbers Mean? - BOB ALLISON WB1GCM**

The most frequently asked question the ARRL Lab is asked is, "What radio should I buy?" Bob Allison, WB1GCM, ARRL Senior Test Engineer is not permitted to answer that question, but he can certainly point you in the right direction. He will explain the key transmitting and receiving tests that are performed at the Lab and what all those numbers mean that are shown in QST Product Review articles. Terms such as Two-tone Third Order Intermodulation Distortion Dynamic Range, Blocking Gain Compression Dynamic Range and Reciprocal Mixing Dynamic Range can be intimidating or confusing. Bob will explain them in simple terms, as well as some of the transmitting tests. Why is low Phase Noise Important? Bob will explain and in an entertaining way.

## **An Introduction to the Work of the ARRL Laboratory - BOB ALLISON WB1GCM**

Most QST readers see the monthly column, Product Review and have an idea of some of the work the ARRL Laboratory does. But did you know the Lab has an answer man, Zack Lau, W1VT, who runs the Lab's Technical Information Service? He provides the answers that many of our members ask when they call or write to the Lab for help. Did you know the Lab has an RFI expert? Many of our members experience RFI and don't know what to do about it. Mike Gruber, W1MG can help! Who is the watchdog against spectrum encroachment from consumer devices? It's none other than Lab manager, Ed Hare, W1RFI. Ed is a prominent board member of many standards committees. He also won the BPL battle for all of us. Bob Allison, Senior Test Engineer for Product Review at the ARRL Lab will explain the work the ARRL Lab does.