

THE WCF PRESSER: ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION NEWS
Issue #14 – February 2016
By Darrell Davis KT4WX
ARRL West Central Florida Section Manager

EVELYN GAUZENS W4WYR, FORMER SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR SK



On Sunday January 31st, Evelyn Gauzens W4WYR became a Silent Key after having fallen at her home on January 1st and was recovering from that fall at home. Evelyn had served as Vice Director for the ARRL Southeastern Division for 22 years (1980-2002). Evelyn was also well known for being chairwoman on the Miami Hamboree for 45 years. Evelyn will be missed by all who knew her. Her son Alan WA4ATF is the net manager for the ARRL Information Net.

A funeral mass will be held Tuesday, February 9th at 10 AM. at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 2987 W Flagler St., Miami, FL 33135, with burial following at Woodlawn North Cemetery, 3260 SW 8th St., Miami, FL 33135. There will be a memorial service on Thursday February 18th at 1:00 PM at Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church, 750 San Salvador Dr., Dunedin, FL 34698. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Michael's Church, or to the ARRL Scholarship Fund.

For more information see the ARRL Press Release at <http://www.arrl.org/news/long-time-arrl-vice-director-honorary-vice-president-evelyn-gauzens-w4wyr-sk>.

2016 ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION COMING TO ORLANDO IN JUST A FEW DAYS.



The ARRL Board of Directors has designated the 70th 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 and will be starting in just a few days from now. For more information go to the Hamcation website at <http://www.hamcation.org> and you can find out more information about the ARRL Expo at <http://www.arrl.org/expo>.

2ND ANNUAL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION TECHNICAL CONFERENCE – 2/27/16 – HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY EOC:

Coming up on Saturday February 27th 2016, will be the 2nd Annual West Central Florida Section Technical Conference, which will be held at the Hillsborough County EOC which is located at 2711 E. Hanna Av., in Tampa. Registration for the conference is now open and you may register online at the Section website at <http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/>. Registrations are starting to come in and we several new speakers as part of the lineup as well as many of our speakers from last year are speaking again this year. However we are still looking for presenters and your presentation can be in any area of amateur radio technology. Ed Hare W1RFI will be our special guest speaker again from the ARRL Laboratory. The conference schedule, program description, and related documents will be available at the above mentioned web page.

ARRL NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR COMING TO A NATIONAL PARK NEAR YOU.



There is a lot of excitement about this event already. The ARRL is sponsoring the National Parks On The Air (NPOTA). This event started on January 1, 2016 and will run until December 31, 2016. This event is not a contest, per se, but a radio operating event similar to Field Day. The event is being held by the ARRL to commemorate the centennial of the National Park Service. There are 433 National Park Administrative

(NPA) units in the United States that are eligible for activation. There is only one NPA unit in the West Central Florida Section and it is Desoto National Memorial just north of Bradenton on the shore of the Manatee River. Desoto was activated by the Mid Florida DX Association on New Years Day. You will find a report on this in the March issue of THE WCF PRESSER. However there are four NPA units in the Southern Florida Section and five NPA units in the Northern Florida Sections.

The ARRL website has a web page devoted to NPOTA information at <http://www.arrl.org/npota>. I have added a new web page to the Section website with a lot of good information about the National Parks On The Air at <http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/npota-wcf/>.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS IN THE SECTION:

The second half of the 2015-2016 hamfest season continues in full swing.:

- Friday February 12 – Sunday February 14: 70th Annual Orlando Hamcation – *ARRL National Convention* – Central Florida Fairgrounds – Orlando, FL.
- Saturday February 20: 23rd Annual Highlands County Hamfest – Lake Josphine Baptist Church, Sebring, FL.
- Saturday March 5: Peace River Hamfest – Punta Gorda Boat Club – Punta Gorda, FL.
- Saturday March 5: Zephyrhills Area Hamfest – Zephyrhills Lions Club – Zephyrhills, FL.
- Saturday March 12: Upper Pinellas Tailgate – RV Campground – Palm Harbor, FL

CALL FOR ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE WCF EXPERIMENTER:

Geoff Haines N1GY, our Technical Coordinator, will shortly be putting together the next issue of THE WCF EXPERIMENTER, the technical newsletter for the ARRL West Central Florida Section. If you have recently build a new project, modified an existing piece of amateur radio equipment or project, or even written some amateur radio related software, others would like to hear about your work. f you have an article you would like to submit please send it to Geoff via email at n1gy@arrl.net. Geoff can work with almost any format you send him. For the current and past issues of THE WCF EXPERIMENTER you may go to <http://arrlwcf.org/home/the-wcf-experimenter-technical-newsletter/>.

ARRL STATION APPOINTEE MONTHLY REPORTS ARE DUE:

Just a reminder to all in the WCF Section who hold an ARRL Station Appointment. Your monthly reports are due for the previous month of activity. You may file your reports on the Section website at <http://arrlwcf.org/section-forms/>. You may also send your report via email to the respective cabinet member that is the coordinator for your appointment as well. Many thanks to all of you who do file your reports. Filling a monthly report is a requirement to hold an ARRL Station Appointment.

CHECK OUT THE SECTION WEBSITE - <http://www.arrlwcf.org>:

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 club meetings, are all posted there. We will be adding more content to the Section website here in the next 30-60 days including the 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.

CURRENT WCF SECTION NET SCHEDULE. PARTICIPATE IF YOU CAN:



WCFCountry
West Central Florida Section

The WCF Section holds several different nets for different interests in amateur radio. The listing below gives you the net name, date, time, frequency, and net managers name and call. Here is a listing of the current Section Nets:

- WCF Section ARES/Information Net – VHF/UHF: Monday 1930 – NI4CE Repeater System – Net Manager is J.C. Rivero K4RTC, ARRL Net Manager.
- WCF Section Technical Net: Thursday 2100 – NI4CE Repeater System - Net Manager is Geoff Haines N1GY, ARRL Technical Coordinator.
- WCF Section ARES/Information Net – HF: Saturday 0830 - 3911 Khz or 3913 Khz - Net Manager is Neil Lauritsen W4NHL, ARRL Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator.
- Eagle Net – WCF Section Daily NTS Net: Daily 2030 – NI4CE Repeater System - Net Manager is Dave Rockwell W4PXE, ARRL Net Manager.

The ARRL West Central Florida Section would like to thank the West Central Florida Group, the owners and operators of the NI4CE repeater system, for allowing the VHF/UHF Section Nets to operate on the system. For more info on the system you may go to <http://wp.ni4ce.org>.

APOLOGIES FOR TARDINESS THIS MONTH AND SOME CONTENT DELAYED:

My apologies for not having this issue of THE WCF PRESSER out last week as intended. My church was holding revival services, being busy with college studies and some extra duties at work as well. This cut into the time to put THE WCF PRESSER together and publish it (which takes normally 6 to 8 hours to accomplish). Also we will have some pictures from events in December and January events hopefully in the next issue. If not we will catch up in the April issue. Stay tuned and thank you for taking the time to read THE WCF PRESSER each and every month.

UP TO 5 COSPONSORS IN THE SENATE AND UP TO 116 COSPONSORS OF THE HOUSE BILL (HR-1301):

In mid November, Senate Bill 1685 (S. 1685), gained three additional co-sponsors, to bring the total co-sponsors to four. House Resolution 1301 (HR 1301), the U.S. House of Representatives version of the Amateur Radio Parity Act, is up to 116 co-sponsors as of February 3rd.

US House Representative [Adam Kinzinger](#) (R-IL) introduced the bill on March 4th 2015 with 12 original co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle: seven Republicans and five Democrats. US Senator [Roger Wicker](#) (R-MS) introduced the companion bill 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 112 co-sponsors as of November 2. As of press time, two Representatives with districts that are in the West Central Florida Section: Representative Daniel Webster, 10th District, that covers the north central part of Polk County and Representative Tom Rooney, 17th District, that covers Charlotte, Desoto, Hardee, Highlands, southeastern Hillsborough, eastern Manatee, and southern Polk Counties.

The direct link to the ARRL page devoted to the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 is <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>. The following is a 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 preemption 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."

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

Friday January 1st, Christine Duez KK4KJN and I attended the initial activation of the Desoto National Memorial NPS Unit for the kick off of the ARRL National Parks On The Air, which will run for all of 2016. Christine got to make about 20 contacts while one of the operators was taking a break.

On Saturday January 9th, I attended TARCfest 34, at the Tampa Amateur Radio Clubhouse in north Tampa. This TARCfest was well attended as they usually are. Steve Elliott KS4WA came and helped out at the ARRL table and was available if anyone needed to have their cards checked for DXCC.

On Saturday January 16th, Christine Duez KK4KJN and I attended the South Coast Amateur Radio Service (SCARS which is pronounced "south cars") tailgate at the Golden Corral Restaurant just north of I-4 off of U.S. 98. We enjoyed our time with many of the Net Controls and participants of South CARS. They conduct a wonderful service net on 7251 Khz from 0800-1300, every day of year including Christmas. For more information you can go to <http://www.southcars.com>.

On Saturday January 23rd, I attended the Desoto County Hamfest at the Turner Agri-Civic Center in Arcadia in the morning and in the afternoon, Ben Henley KI4IGX, Randy Payne K4EZM, Ken Treffinger K4RSQ and I attended the WCF Section ARES meeting which was held at the Sarasota County EOC, which was completed just over a year ago. Due to the traveling distance and the time, I was not able to make the WCF Section ARES Luncheon which preceded the meeting. We were able to present Ron Wetjen WD4AHZ which a Certificate of Merit for his over 10 years of service as Emergency Coordinator. Ed Gansen K8DSS, accepted this certificate on his behalf as Ron has been in poor health lately and is undergoing treatment for his poor health condition.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTH OF JANUARY (CONTINUED):

On Saturday January 30th, Christine Duez KK4KJN and I attended the Lake Wales Radio Amateurs Winter Field Day at Crystal Lake Park near downtown Lake Wales. The event was well attended and plenty of food for everyone and it was good.

We will share pictures of these events in future WCF SECTION PRESS RELEASES on these events. Look for pictures from the December and January events coming soon.

SECTION ARES REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2015

By Randy Payne K4EZM – Assistant Section Manager

Reporting was slightly down in December. The following ARES groups filed reports for the month of December:

Desoto County: Number of ARES Members 1, Number of ARES Nets 0, Number of drills and training sessions 0, Number of hours conducting drills and training sessions 0, Number of public service events 0, Number of hours of public service events 0, and no emergency activations.

Hardee County: Number of ARES Members 6, Number of ARES Nets 1, Number of drills and training sessions 1, Number of hours conducting drills and training sessions 1, Number of public service events 0, Number of hours of public service events 0, and no emergency activations. Held annual Hardee County ARES Christmas party at Nicholas Restaurant on Tuesday December 1st. Did not hold ARES nets on 12/21 or 12/28 due to the holidays.

Highlands County: Number of ARES Members 28, Number of ARES Nets 8, Number of drills and training sessions 0, Number of hours conducting drills and training sessions 0, Number of public service events 0, Number of hours of public service events 0, and no emergency activations. Other comments: Did not hold month ARES meeting due to the Tampa Bay Hamfest being held on the same date. Randy Payne K4EZM attended the Polk ARES Christmas party with Ben Henley KI4IGX, Section Emergency Coordinator.

Manatee County: Number of ARES Members 45, Number of ARES Nets 7, Number of drills and training sessions 0, Number of hours conducting drills and training sessions 58, Number of public service events 1, Number of hours of public service events 8, and 58 hours conducting emergency activations. Other comments: held four ARES nets, and three SKYWARN nets.

Pasco County: Number of ARES Members 42, Number of ARES Nets 4, Number of drills and training sessions 0, Number of hours conducting drills and training sessions 0, Number of public service events 0, Number of hours of public service events 0, and no emergency activations. Had a booth set up at the ARRL WCF Section Convention at the Tampa Bay Hamfest for the two days. The booth allowed us to educate the attendees about the ARES/RACES program within Pasco County.

The following ARRL Official Emergency Stations submitted a report for December: K7TEN, KR4X, W1WAB, and W4XDS. *Editors Note: KR4X also filed an OES report for the month of November but was not reported initially in the last issue of the WCF Presser. Our apologies for this error.*

SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGERS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2015

By Doug Williams N2DW – Section Traffic Manager:

Station Activity Reports (SAR):

N2DW: Originated 0, Received 8, Sent 7, Delivered 0, and Total 15
W8IM: Originated 1, Received 11, Sent 13, Delivered 9, and Total 24
W4PXE: Originated 1, Received 8, Sent 12, Delivered 0, and Total 21
K4EEI: Originated 0, Received 55, Sent 69, Delivered 1, and Total 125
W2SU: Originated 0, Received 0, Sent 0, Delivered 0, and Total 0
K4RSQ: Originated 0, Received 1, Sent 1, Delivered 1, and Total 4

Public Service Honor Roll:

N2DW 110
W8IM 84
KT4WX 84

West Central Florida Section Net Activity Reports:

AIN: Sessions 2, Stations 22, Traffic 2, Minutes 40
Net Manager – WA4ATF
EAGLE NET: Sessions 31, Stations 981, Traffic 32, Minutes 1013
Net Manager – W4PXE
SPARC NET: Sessions 37, Stations 532, Traffic 32, Minutes 915
Net Manager – W4TSP

SECTION MANAGERS CONTACT INFORMATION AND CONCLUSION:

Here is my contact information:

- U.S. Mail: 6350 Mills Road Fort Meade, FL 33841
- Telephone: (863) 245-9923
- Email: kt4wx@arrl.org
- Website: <http://www.kt4wx.org>.

The Section also has a website, Facebook and Twitter pages.

- 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. I will be at the ARRL Laboratory table at the ARRL Expo during the Orlando Hamcation. Stop by and see me and I will be glad to say hello to you. Otherwise, see you all at a hamfest, meeting, or other special events this month. 73 de Darrell
KT4WX.