



QST NFL



Providing timely and interesting information to Radio Amateurs in North Florida

Volume 3, Issue 6

June 2016

Steve's Take:

**NFL Section Manager
Steve Szabo, WB4OMM**

Good Day to You! I hope this message finds you enjoying the Greatest Hobby and Service in the World!



It has been another busy month.....again! And I love it!! Not a large amount of news, but here's what's happenin'.

I got to visit with the Lake Monroe Amateur Radio Society in Winter Springs and North Florida Amateur Radio Society in Jacksonville – and saw many, many NFL folks in Dayton! I checked more cards in the RadioSport booth than I remember in a long time, got to speak with ARRL HQ folks, and hob-nob with at least 8-10 other Section Managers present. There was a Section Managers meeting too. All in all, a very educational trip and lotsa' fun!

As always, Marty's June edition of *QST NFL* is again chock full of information! Take a look at this excellent "rag" that is produced by **Marty Brown WB2VYK** on the NFL Web Page – administered by our official Webmeister, **Bert Garcia N8NN** at <http://arri-nfl.org/>

Pretty much all of our EC positions are filled (in counties that have ARES groups) and all of the Section Leadership appointments are filled. Please welcome the following folks to their new positions:

ARES County Emergency Coordinators :

Hernando County – Ron Wright N9EE

These and all of the Section Officials can be located on the NFL Web Page - http://arri-nfl.org/?page_id=2781.

The Statewide Hurricane Exercise was a great success according to the State Liaison.

Initial reports noted poor propagation on HF (both 80M and 40M were exceptionally bad), but the SARNet system worked great. Many groups "relayed" messages to other groups to get the response in the system.....and it worked! No "official" word yet, but looks like 26 counties reported in – not too bad! Many also checked into the NHC activity with info and WX reports. THANK YOU to those who participated! More will be distributed as soon as we can get the data.

What's Inside...

Marty Brown, WB2VYK, Editor
wb2vyk@gmail.com



Special Notice....

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Byron Engen, WN4R

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Carl Berry, KC5CMX

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Phil Royce, KE4PWE



**Email your QST NFL input to
WB2VYK@gmail.com**

My scheduled visits to Hamfests and "tailgates", club and ARES meetings for June: NONE

I will be participating in the prep and operations of my own local group, DB CERT ART for Field Day – both days this year. The next big trip will be the Milton Hamfest, July 8 and 9. Hope to see you there!

The 2016 ARRL Field Day event, the weekend of June 25-26 – start preparing! I have asked for a State Proclamation from the Governor – I am still waiting on it – I will post/provide as soon as I receive it. More on Field Day here: <http://www.arri.org/field-day>.

Get involved, get active, get happy! Stay safe, get on the air, and have fun!!

I hope to see you at a club meeting/activity soon!

EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Steve WB4OMM



A History of Ham Radio, Part VI

by **Byron Engen, WN4R**, wn4r12@gmail.com

The decades of the 1950s and of 1960s was a period of a lot of changes in ham radio. Last month you read about the restructuring of the licenses in 1951. I will continue now from that point. I received my Novice license, **WNØEBA**, issued on July 24, 1951 and as best I can determine I was the first Novice in the state of North Dakota where I was living at that time. I had just graduated from high school. Before my license was issued I had built a 6V6 crystal oscillator described in "How to Become a Radio Amateur" from ARRL. It was a simple transmitter, crystal controlled, and with an input of 8 or 9 Watts. My receiver was a military surplus BC-454 tuning 3 to 6 Megacycles with very poor selectivity. But, it was inexpensive and at least got me started. Later that year my Dad bought me a Hallicrafters S38B which was a little better. Then I was off to college and no operation except while home for holidays. In one year Novices were supposed to operate CW to gain code speed so they could pass the 13 wpm for the next step. I almost was ready after listening to code practice on **W1AW** most evenings. I finally was ready to take my exam 1 year plus 1 month and passed my Conditional Class exam and became **WØEBA** on August 22, 1952. I was going to college in Minnesota, so in May of 1953, I wanted to prove to myself I could pass an exam in front of the FCC examiner so I went to FCC office and passed my General issued on May 6, 1953. The FCC examiner asked me why I came in, and I told him just to show I could pass it. Enough about my history lets get back to history of amateur radio.

In 1952 the FCC allowed phone operation on 40 meters where before it was limited to CW only. FCC opened the 15 meter band for the first time available to hams. The major change was to not issue new Advanced Class licenses. The present holders of Advanced licenses were allowed to continue to renew (all licenses, except Novice, were only good for 5 years and could be renewed provided one met the operating experience requirements of a specified

number of hours operation in the 3 months before expiration, certify that you still could copy CW for your class of license, and if license was renewed within the 1 year grace period since expiration. If you didn't renew before one year since expiration you would be required to retake and pass the examinations. In 1952 the limitation of only Advanced Licensees for use of 75 and 20-meter phone bands was repealed. Thus all hams from Conditional and up had the same privileges. By then I had upgraded my equipment to a used Hammarlund HQ129X receiver and a home built all band CW and AM transmitter of 75 watts input so I could now operate on all bands. During this period manufacturers such as E.F. Johnson (Viking models), Heathkit, Collins, World Radio Laboratories (Globe models), and a few others began to offer kits as well as factory wired units to the ham world. Most of these had versions from beginner low power input up to high power amplifiers. The kits came with very detailed instructions even whether or not you should solder the connection now or later after more components were added to that junction later on in the assembly instructions. Prices varied, but, with Dad, who would give or loan money to help the young licensee, we could get better equipment occasionally.

By 1953 the FCC was beginning to run out of calls with the W prefix calls in some call zones. Thus they started issuing K prefix calls.

In 1955 Technician licensees were granted 6-meter privileges to help increase activity on the band and to encourage more experimentation (the original stated purpose of the Technician class)

From 1956 to 1960 major changes came in the equipment that was available. Transistors were beginning to be used by hams and by manufacturers of ham radio equipment. Some of the first uses of transistors was in power supplies, then audio sections, and finally QRP transmitters. But during that time

History of Ham Radio, VI (Continued)

most equipment was predominately all tubes. Also, in this period SSB [or as originally called single side-band suppressed carrier (sssc)] was catching up to AM in terms of popularity. Ham radio magazines almost every month had articles about this new technology including circuit diagrams for building your own equipment. The early discussions were reviewing the choice of method of removing the carrier and the other sideband --crystals or phasing. About this

time the major manufactures were beginning to offer transmitters with SSB, AM, and CW as switchable modes. Many of the old-timers were very upset with the "Donald Duck" sounds from SSB. Tuning SSB was also very difficult because most receivers required careful tuning in CW mode and adjusting the pitch of the carrier injection by the BFO to be able to understand what was being said.



Florida QSO Party

Carl Berry KC5CMX, AEC Marion County

I put this together for the FL QSO Party. Functionally, it worked perfectly. Lightweight and portable, yet will stay put. Battery operated electric winch charged with a solar panel to charge it with.

The rotator is a radio shack unit. We used 2-6 pin cat 5 boxes and about 50' of wire. Plug one on the control and one on the rotator, works like a champ!





NADXA (100/50) Challenge

Michael Di Persio, KC2Q

The NADXA (100/30) Challenge is just that, a personal challenge not a contest. It happens 4 times a year. It was for March, will be again for July, October and again in January starting next years challenge. We hope the word will get out to all hams world-wide..... (.QST can do that.)

Much of the info can be found on the NADXA website [North America DX Assoc., Inc. - Home .nadxa.org](http://NorthAmericaDXAssoc.,Inc.-Home.nadxa.org).

The concept is simple.....

Work 100 Countries, Islands or Entities within 30 days of the Month (January, March, July, & Oct.) submit the log to wr2dx@yahoo.com or nadxa@nadxa.org by the 15th of the following month. QSL's are not needed as we go by the honor system. (if you cheat you only cheat yourself). You can work CW, SSB, RTTY or digital (psk-31). It will be posted on the NADXA website. Good Luk!



April NFARES HF Net Stats

MSG.# 1621 R W4NFG CK 15 PORT ST. JOE, FL 5-1-2016
 NFARES H. F. NET SUMMARY APRIL 2016 SESSIONS 26
 STATIONS 1828 TRAFFIC 43 TIME 808 MINUTES

73,
 MAC/W4NFG

Amateur Radio Test Announcement

Silver Springs Radio Club

will be holding an Amateur Radio test session on June 5, 2016, 4:00 at:

D & J Apiary

17732 SE 283rd Ave.

Umatilla, Florida, 32784

For more information, or to sign up, please go to <http://k4gso.us/classes/ve-testing/>. You may also contact Mike

Condon, W9MNC directly at W9MNC@AOL.COM.

All test participants are required to bring:

- An original and a copy of their current amateur radio license.
- Two forms of identification, one of which must be a photo Id.
- Any certificates of completion (Less than 1 year old).
- There is a testing fee of \$15.00 **(cash only at this time)**
- There is no time limit on testing



MARION COUNTY HAMS ACTIVATE

From the June 2016 Marion County ARES Newsletter
Carl Berry, KC5CMX, AEC Marion County FL

The month of May brought us into the Statewide Hurricane Drill, **HURRICANE X**.

The amateur radio community in Marion County participated in the 2016 statewide hurricane drill on May 18th. All the ham groups were involved from one extent to the other. Before the event, the different groups, ARES, MERT (Marion Emergency Radio Team) and the hospital group came together to work on a coordinated plan for actual and drilled events. This included an ICS 205a spelling out everything from soup to nuts, basically a county wide band plan, and an exercise within the exercise sending message traffic from one agency to another and groups within the agencies, to stress the system and see what works and what doesn't.

As with all drills, this is the time and place to learn our strengths and weaknesses. As of the time this is being



Carl KC5CMX, Ron KS4SW, Bill WB4EVZ, Joe JK4QNE. Not pictured—Eddie KK4JIV

written the data is being compiled, however, it is safe to say that it was a success for the hams and all the agencies that we support.

We trained with DStar, DRats, Winlink, VHF nets, HF nets plus set up the equipment in a field environment.

Escambia County Participates in Annual Hurricane Exercise

Joe McLemore, KF4DVF

Assistant Emergency Coordinator

This is the ARES After Action Report for Escambia County Hurricane Exercise on May 18, 2016 in Escambia County, FL.

Summary

On Wednesday, May 18, 2016, Escambia County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) participated in the annual Escambia County Hurricane Exercise and in the Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise.

- 16 Amateur Radio Operators and stations.
 - 14 Escambia County ARES, 2 non-ARES.
- ARES room in the EOC was activated and staffed by 3 ARES members.
 - Additionally, 4 ARES members and 1 non-ARES amateur radio operator staffing other agencies desks at the EOC stopped by the ARES room.
 - ◊ One of these ARES member handled our check in into the Northern Florida ARES state net.
- Escambia County Emergency Net (local ARES net) was activated.
 - In addition to the ARES members already at the EOC, 8 additional stations checked in on the local net.
- Simulated deployments of ARES members to multiple locations to cover Fire Stations and Shelters.
- Multiple HF/VHF/UHF frequencies used, including digital modes.
- 12 digital messages sent and received.
 - Successful testing of using digital modes (Winlink) for sending/receiving messages:
 - ◊ Long-distance on HF to Chipley for relay of message to the state EOC
 - ◊ Locally on VHF from near the Special Needs shelter to the EOC.
- Estimated 17.5 person-hours for the exercise itself. 7.75 hours of planning including writing the Incident Action Plan (exercise plan) and writing after action report after the exercise. 25.25 person-hours total.

Radio Modes used

- HF voice
 - Successfully checked into Northern Florida ARES net on 3.950.
 - We were unsuccessful on the special Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise net on 3.950 or 7.242.
- Tactical net – VHF – Escambia County Emergency Net (Local ARES net) on 146.76 repeater successfully used.
- Digital modes
 - APRS.
 - E-mail using HF freq (Winlink) –
 - ◊ Sent a ICS213 message (Situation Report) to the state EOC per Florida Statewide exercise request. Sent to Florida Department of Transportation amateur radio station in Chipley via digital modes (Winlink on HF), which then relayed it to the state EOC via HF voice on 7.242.
 - ◊ 1 ARES activation message sent to Northern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator (ARES).
 - Tested sending digital messages via VHF frequency (Winlink Peer to Peer) from near the special needs shelter to the EOC.
 - ◊ Successful at med power (10 watts) and low power (5 watts).
 - ◊ Establishing digital messaging capabilities using Amateur Radio between EOC and shelters is an unresolved follow-up action item from the Hurricane Ivan After Action Report.
 - Digital Messages sent via Winlink has been documented in WebEOC on ICS213 General Message forms.



STATE OF FLORIDA
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

RICK SCOTT
Governor

BRYAN W. KOON
Director

All Amateur Radio Operators

I would like to thank everyone that participated in the 2016 State of Florida COOP and Hurricane Kimo Exercise. We had five relays, multiple Public Safety and Emergency management agencies including the National Hurricane Center, the National Weather Service, and twenty-six counties involved in the exercise. Mission 175. In starting this process eighteen month ago, we have taken small steps to bring back the participation with the State of Florida and the amateur radio community, in doing so, the recent event has shown great improvement to our Amateur Radio communications response for when the real event occurs.

I would like to recognize the great leadership efforts of Steve Szabo and all of the ARRL ARES section coordinators for assembling their EC groups to participate. I would also like to personally and professionally thank Michael Lee AA6ML, for bringing his EMCOMM-1 unit and operating for my agency as lead communications officer. Michael cancelled going to Dayton to participate which I think is very dedicated to the promotion of Amateur Radio to the Public Service needs in the time of disaster.

Our State Meteorology officer was also involving with the Amateur Radio operations and did a full real-time weather briefing using the SARnet network to the National Hurricane Center. This was under Mission 181. To enhance the challenges of radio communications we also utilized HF SHARES covering nine states.

This demonstrated a great participation and was well received by the State EM Director's staff with great interest for the support that Amateur Radio provides.

ARES Counties involved: Escambia, Washington, Clay, Santa Rosa, Leon, Lake, Sarasota, Sumter, Madison, Hernando, Jefferson, Suwannee, Polk, Volusia, Seminole, Citrus, Martin, Desoto, Gilchrist, Hendry, Nassau, Broward, Duval, St. Johns, Putnam, Highlands.

HF SHARES States involved: Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina, North Carolina, Michigan, Louisiana, Indiana, Hawaii, Virginia.

Sincerely,

Phil Royce FDEM Communications Director / SWIC / KE4PWE

FLORIDA RECOVERY OFFICE
5900 Lake Ellenor Drive
Orlando, FL 32809

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
Tel: 850-413-9969 • Fax: 850-488-1016
www.FloridaDisaster.org

STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER
2702 Directors Row
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



Scenes from the Hurricane Kimo Exercise

Thanks to:

Phil Royce, KE4PWE

FDEM Communications Director/SWIC



Milton Amateur Radio Club 21ST Annual Section Convention Ham Fest

(The Best Ham Fest in North West Florida)



Santa Rosa County Auditorium
4530 Spikes Way, Milton, FL

Talk in 145.490 100Hz T

\$ 2,000.00 in Prizes

Friday 8th July (2016) Saturday 9th July

Vendors: 8:00 AM Vendors: 7:00 AM

General Public: 12:00 PM General Public: 8:00 AM

Close: 8:00 PM Close: 1:00 PM

Admission: \$6.00 per person (Ticket Good for Fri & Sat)

Tables: \$ 12.00 per table (Tables Good for Fri & Sat)

Tailgater: \$ 7.00 (Also Good for Fri & Sat)

(Limited Tailgate Area – 1st come 1st served)

FCC Examinations

Saturday 9th July 9:00 AM

Additional Information: <http://www.miltonarc.org/>

PENSACOLA HAMFEST

SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

PENSACOLA FAIR GROUNDS
6655 Mobile Hwy Pensacola, FL 32526



Sponsored By:

Five Flags Amateur Radio Association

Talk-in 146.760 -100hz

Admission \$5 - Tables \$15 - Tailgate spaces \$5

RV Spots No hook up \$10

Set Up Friday September 23rd 10am-5:00pm

Hamfest Saturday September 24th 8am-3pm

Grand Prizes :YAESU FT991, YAESU FTM100DR, ICOM718

For more info: Pensacolahamfest@gmail.com

Contact - Dave WA2MVH, 850-393-0836

Exam Testing 1:00pm

WWW.W4UC.ORG

To Purchase tickets and Register Table Early fill out sheet below. Make Checks payable to FFARA
Mail checks to FFARA @ P.O. Box 1223 Gonzales, FL 32560

Please print

Call Sign _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Grand Prize Ticket (\$1 each) _____

Table (\$15each) _____

Upcoming Hamfests

- July 8-9, 2016— Milton ARC 21st Annual Section Convention Hamfest, Milton, FL, <http://miltonarc.org/>
- July 16, 2016 – Florida Traders Net Tailgate, Orlando, FL <http://esrcvacuumtubes.com>
- July 23, 2016 – LARCFEST, Lakland, FL <http://lakelandarc.org>
- August 20, 2016 – TARCfest, Tampa, FL <http://hamclub.org>
- September 16, 2016 – The ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference, St. Petersburg, FL <http://www.tapr.org> **NEW!**
- September 24, 2016— Pensacola Hamfest, Pensacola Fair Grounds, Pensacola, FL , <http://w4uc.org/>
- September 24, 2016 – Pasco County HamFest, Odessa, FL <http://sarcfl.com> **NEW!**
- October 7, 2016 – Florida State Convention (Melbourne Hamfest), Melbourne, FL <http://PCARS.org>
- November 5, 2016 – LARA Tailgate, Tavares, FL <http://www.k4fc.org> **NEW!**
- November 12, 2016 – SPARCFest 2016, Pinellas Park, FL <http://www.sparc-club.org>
- November 12, 2016 Flamingo Net/University of Miami ARC Free Flea, Coral Gables, FL <http://www.FlamingoNet8m.net>
- November 19, 2016 – Cy Harris Memorial Free Flea, Oakland Park, FL <http://browardarc.net/free-flea>
- December 9, 2016 – West Central Florida Section Convention (Tampa Bay Hamfest), Plant City, FL <http://www.tampabayhamfest.org>



FCC Testing Information

Amateur Electronic Supply

- Monthly on the second Saturday
- 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 621 Commonwealth Av, Orlando, FL 32806
- Click: [map](#)
- For more information and registration, contact AES at orlando@aesham.com , 407-894-3238

LMARS FCC Testing

- Every odd month (January, March, May, July, September, November)
- Fourth Saturday
- 9:15 AM
- Seminole County Sheriff's Office
- Off SR 17-92, on 100 Bush Blvd in Sanford (across from Flea World)
- For more information and registration, contact Bob Cumming, W2BZY, 407-333-0690

North Florida ARS

- Weeknight testing for all grades of license in Feb., May, Aug. and Nov.
- Hogan Baptist Church at the corner of Hogan Rd. and Parental Home Rd. in southside.
- Advance registration is required. The next session is Thursday, November 5, 2015 7PM.

See http://nofars.net/home/fcc_testing

Lake ARA

- Monthly on the 3rd Saturday, prior to monthly meeting. (Except December)
- 8:00 AM
- [LARA Clubhouse](#) (11146 Springdale Ave, Leesburg – off of CR 473)
- For more information and registration, contact David A. Pennell, NP2MR (352) 602-5164 np2mr@yahoo.com in advance of the meeting.

Suwannee ARC **** New****

- First Tuesday of the month prior to the meeting
- Saturdays available with advanced notice
- N4SVC, 9707 58th Street, Live Oak, FL 32060
- www.suwanneearc.org for more information

Section Nets.....

For net details go to www.arri-nfl.org and select the Nets

Net	Frequency	Day/Time (Local)
Central Florida D-Star Training Net	REF046C. D-Rats nfl.ratflector.net	Wednesday, 0900
Clay County ARES Net	146.925, Tone 156.7	Sunday, 1930
Crestview Gulf Coast VHF Training Net (GCVTN)	147.360, (+), PL 100Hz	Daily, 20:00
Crestview SARNet	Statewide UHF Net on linked repeaters on 444.900, (+) PL 100Hz	Friday, 0900
Crown District ARES Net	145.925 (156.7)	First Wednesday, 2030
Defuniak Springs Walton County ARC Net	147.285 (+), PL 100Hz	Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1930
Duval County ARES Net	146.70 (127.3)ALT:147.315(127.3)	Wednesday, 1930
Florida Hurricane Net,	D-Star REF037C	Monday, 2100
Fort Walton Beach – Playground ARC Net	146.790, (-), PL 100Hz	Sunday, 2000
Madison County ARES Madison County ARC	145.190, Lee Repeater, PL 123	Sunday, 2100
Milton 2-Meter Net	145.490 (-), PL 100Hz	Monday, 2000
Milton Santa Rosa County ARES Net	146.700 (-), PL 100Hz	Tuesday, 2000
Nassau County ARES Net	147.000 (-) (107.2)	Wednesday, 2030 (Except 1st Wed)
NFL ARES Net	7.242, Primary 3.950, Secondary	Monday-Saturday, 0900
NFL D-Star Net	REF046C, D-Rats on nfl.ratflector.net.	Wednesday, 0900
NFL Digital Net	3.590 PSK 31, USB	Sunday, 1900
NFL Phone Net (NFPN)	3950 Alt 7242 and 7247	Daily, 1930
Northwest Florida DX Net	147.555 (simplex)	Tuesday, 1930
Okaloosa County ARES Net	147.120, (+), PL 100Hz	Monday, 2030
Orange County ARES Net and Skywarn	443.050	Thursday, 1900
Pensacola Escambia County ARES Net	146.760, PL 100Hz	Monday, 1930
QCWA Citrus Chapter 45	147.195	Tuesday, 1930, Echolink W2AS-L, #node 627152
QCWA Chapter 217 The Villages	443.150, PL 103.5 Echolink K4LFK-R	Friday, 1000

Section Nets, continued.....

QFN CW Traffic Net	3547 Winter (7105 Summer)	Daily, 1900
Santa Rosa County Skywarn Net	146.700, K4SRC Repeater	Monday, 2000
SAR NET	http://sarnetfl.com	Click 140614_FDOT_UWAVE_Map_with_UHF_coverage.16664435
Seminole VHF Traffic Net	147.090 MHz, offset of +600, PL of 103.5 147.450 Simplex	Daily, 19:15 First Monday, 19:15
St. Johns County ARES	147.210 (127.3) ALT:147.015 (127.3)	Wednesday, 2000
Suwannee ARES/Emergency Prep Net	145.270 PL 123 145/410 PL 123 FSQ— 3.594 MHz	Thursday, 2030
The Villages Amateur Radio Club (TVARC) Ragchew Net	443.225, PL 103.5 Echolink K4VRC-R	Monday, 19:00
Traders Net	3.933	Sunday, 08:00
Valparaiso Twin Cities Amateur Radio	146.73, (-), no PL tone	Sunday, 20:30
Walton County ARES Net	147.375 (+), PL 100Hz	Wednesday, 19:00

NFL Officials**Section Manager** – Stephen W. Szabo WB4OMM**Assistant Section Managers** – Joseph D. Bushnel W2DWR, John C Reynolds W4IJJ, Dave Davis WA4WES, Jeff Capehart W4UFL, Neil Light KK4VHX, Ray Crepeau K1HG**Section Emergency Coordinator** – Strait Hollis KT4YA**Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator** – Robert A. Mitchell W4HKG**Section Technical Coordinator** – Frank Haas KB4T**Affiliated Club Coordinator** – Steve Palmer KM4SDP**Section Traffic Manager** – Don A. Duckett N9MN**Official Observer Coordinator** – Rick A. Lloyd AA4W**State Government Liaison** – Darrell Brock N4GOA

QST NFL is a monthly publication of the ARRL Northern Florida Section. *QST NFL* is intended for wide distribution within the NFL Section, including club Leaders and all licensed Amateurs in Florida. A current issue of this publication can be found at the ARRL Southeastern Division web site, Northern Florida Section. www.ARRL-NFL.org Opinions expressed by writers are their own, and may not express the positions of the ARRL. Submissions may be made to the editor, Marty Brown, WB2VYK, wb2vyk@gmail.com. Pictures of children cannot be published without the written permission of both parents.