



QST NFL



Providing timely and interesting information to Radio Amateurs in North Florida

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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!



Summer is OVER! Wow, where has the time gone! School is back in session, and the ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is upon us! Look for an announcement from the ARRL soon! (Usually the first weekend in October).

Miller Norton, W4EMN, is seeking EOC's with an amateur radio presence to take a monthly session of the SAR-Net. If EOC's don't pan out he would seek well-disciplined /qualified individuals to run a session. The nets will continue on the 1st Friday of each month at 0900. He has September and October covered. November and December are open. Those Interested can reply directly, via the ESF2@coj.net email address.

The Louisiana Ham activity is winding down – read more here: <http://www.arrl.org/news/louisiana-amateur-radio-emergency-service-volunteers-standing-down> -

AND.....I fielded several phone calls and e-mails (including one from the Governor's Office in Louisiana) because people misread stuff on Twitter and Facebook....including re-postings from the ARRL. **IF WE ARE REQUESTED TO DEPLOY FOR SUPPORT ANYWHERE, THAT REQUEST WILL COME FROM AN OFFICAL SOURCE** – mainly the State of Florida EC/EOC, the ARRL, or other support organization. We don't free-lance and self-deploy. I'd appreciate folks being patient and waiting for either Strait Hollis (SEC) or myself as SM sending out a request for volunteers. Thanks!!!

I was able to visit the Flagler/Palm Coast ARC, the DB CERT ARC Luncheon, and the Volusia Co ARES group this past month – once again, great stuff by great people!!!

My scheduled visits to Hamfests and "tailgates", club and ARES meetings for the month of September: **Sept 21, Gainesville ARC Meeting; Sept 23/24, Pensacola Hamfest** <http://www.w4uc.org/>

Contest season (and the cooler weather!!!! Yea!!!) is fast approaching. Check those cables, antennas and supports now!!

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

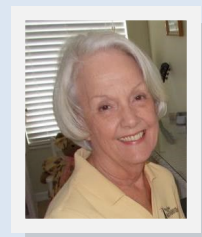
EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Steve WB4OMM

What's Inside...

Marty Brown, WB2VYK, Editor

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Email your QST NFL input to

WB2VYK@gmail.com



WALTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: T.H. MERRITT, Public Information Officer. KM4TJI@arri.net; 208.920.1908

LOCAL ARES CHAPTER TO RECEIVE NEW COMMS GEAR *Emergency Manager Secures Grant Funding for Volunteers*

AUGUST 23, 2016 - When all else fails, radio works. That's the tried and true slogan of amateur radio operators around the world.

Walton County Emergency Manager Jeff Goldberg is making sure the volunteers of the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service have the equipment they need to do their job.

Recently, Goldberg secured \$12,000 in de-obligated funding from the state of Florida to help replace outdated and broken equipment. His extensive network of contacts in state and federal government allows him to make sure Walton County has the best and latest technology when it comes to dealing with disasters.

"The bulk of the money went for new radio equipment. They really did not have what they needed. We replaced every bit of their equipment including antennas, power supplies and some other equipment," said Goldberg. With the additional 6 thousand dollars, Goldberg is updating other equipment in the Emergency Operations Center bunker and command post. "All the money had to be spent by August 31st," said Goldberg.

John Blaisdell (W4CJB), Emergency Coordinator for Walton County ARES, said it's great to have the support of county officials. "Mr. Goldberg doesn't stop. If Walton County needs something to keep us safe, he finds a way to get it."

That leaves only one piece of equipment that the group needs to have the most modern and up to date technology available. The all-volunteer ARES group needs a D-Star repeater to replace one lost in a tragic fire and are exploring other fund raising options. The equipment and accessories costs \$9,500 and will allow operators to transmit documents, pictures and even video over radio waves during emergencies.

Blaisdell said the grant was used to purchase 8 new ICOM 880 D-Star capable radios, power supplies, antennas, waterproof Pelican cases and other accessories to field brand new state of the art Go Boxes.

"While we may be volunteers, every member is a professional amateur radio operator and have long cobbled together personal equipment to serve. Their level of commitment is unequalled," said Blaisdell.

If you would like to know more about how amateur radio works during emergencies or if you would like to donate, contact T.H. Merritt (KM4TJI), Public Information Officer or you can visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WCFLARES>. They also have a GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/27wc5vg>



Walton County Emergency Manager Jeff Goldberg with new radio equipment purchased with at \$12,000 grant for Walton County ARES.

Submitted by:

John Blaisdell - W4CJB
Walton County FL ARES EC

August Activities for the North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC)

Ronald Mahn, FCC Amateur Radio Call Sign KI5FR
President, North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC)

August has certainly passed quickly and it was another eventful month for NOARC. On July 31, our members helped gather the ham station of a long time Ham. While a sad event, it is also an opportunity to spark new interest in ham radio whether it is a ham finding just what he needs from the collection of equipment to having that amateur's old station revived at a club facility. It was very kind and generous to think of NOARC as a valid alternative. Thanks to **Mike KK4LLS** and **Bruce KA5DLV** for working that.

On August 6, a number of our members led by **Cal W4GMH** taught a Boy Scout Communication Merit badge class at Northwest Florida State College in the county EOC building. It was a successful day, thanks to Cal and the others that assisted.

Next up was our regular business meeting held 11 August. This was the straw that broke the meeting facilities back! An incredible 35 folks showed up for the meeting at a facility designed for no more than 20-25. We had people standing on the porch! In addition, we gained 4 new members that night. As part of our 501c3 prep, we collect the volunteer hours of our members. This meeting, our club secretary **Shirley KK4PUG** reported we had 298 volunteer hours in July. We include both club activities as well as things they do outside of ham radio. Next month we will start breaking it out at that level. Among the issues considered during the meeting were amendments to the club articles of incorporation. These amendments adapted our articles to the requirements of a 501c3 organization. We sent the amendments to the state after the meeting. After the meeting most of us once again took advantage of Burger King's generosity of a 10% discount. Over 25 attendees made it over for relaxed conversation and fellowship.

On 13 August, we continued our antenna project at Live Oak Baptist Church. We cemented a support post into the ground. It's a slow but sure project and we hope to have 2 stations and beam antenna up and running sometime this Fall.

In the group shot we have on the bottom row: (L to R) **Mike KJ4FNA** and **Cal W4GMH**. On the top row: **Bruce KA5DLV**, **Ron KI5FR**, **Rich N4DPM**, **Steve KJ4RWD**, and Pat who is looking to get his call again.



In the next picture is **Rob KM4SPJ**, he was taking many of the pics except this one.



NOARC (Continued)

The last shot is another of KJ4RWD and [Steve N4GXX](#).



On 15 August, one of our club members, **Philip KG4RQR**, deployed to the Louisiana floods as part of a Red Cross team. He should return soon and we look forward to having a Tech night presentation on his efforts.

NOARC actually took a little time off before the next activity. On 22 August, I went to see the Crestview City Council at their workshop to discuss what Ham Radio could do for them. We are looking to ensure their ability to communicate with the county EOC where our local ARES has a radio room and the City of Crestview will have a representative. There is 15 miles of Eglin AFB range land and a flood prone river between Crestview and the Okaloosa County EOC in Niceville. The Okaloosa County ARES is slated to man the EOC and several shelters around the county. NOARC simply wants to help Crestview maintain a communications link with the county. Our ARES EC (and NOARC club member when he is not ARES) **Steve N4GXX** is working with us to ensure we are a help not a hindrance.

Tech night was our final club event of the month on 25 August. We tasked one of our new members, **Arc W4CPD**, to show us what he has learned since becoming a Ham a few months ago. He discussed and demoed D-Star as well as showing a favorite You Tube video. Many members enjoyed the presentation. Arc has been taking in all he can about ham radio and we look forward to learning so much more from him. Next we had **CJ KJ4PIU** speak about the Official Observer program. This was of particular interest to me since after 27 years as a

Ham I have never had any interaction with the OO program good or bad. He discussed how he became one and what his responsibilities are. Over all, it was great presentation. We moved the meeting to the Live Oak Baptist Church (LOBC) Fellowship Hall. It has audio visual equipment and capacity for over 100 people. The LOBC has been a wonderful host and we thank them for the upgrade. It is important since we had 2 new members join and a renewal bringing our club total up to 55 according to our Treasurer **Bruce KA5DLV**.

Finally, a couple of other things happened on Tech night. Before the meeting, I asked **Mike KJ4FNA** to go to a meeting for the Helping our Heroes of NWF 5K on 3 September. We have experience helping with races and this run is to raise funds for PTSD awareness in our community (their Facebook site for the race is https://www.facebook.com/events/621858124647052/?active_tab=posts) Mike, as I expected, put a plan in place for our participation and also made contact with the Sheriff's representative in case they see uses for us in the future. Also that day, I found out my new training rep, **Mike W4BZM** with **Bruce KA5DLV** are putting together a General License class. I did not know they were working on this and am very thrilled! We are fortunate to have so many people to get jobs done. With 55 members and growing we have to have things for us to do. Our club members are picking up the challenge and running with it!

See you next month!



Northern Florida STM Reports for July 2016

Compiled by: Tom Housworth KI0JO, Approved by: Don Duckett N9MN, NFL STM

Station Activity Reports

CALLSIGN	TOTAL
KI0JO	469
KZ8Q	116
WB4RJW	82
WR4FSU	43
N9MN	35
KG4QCD	30
KK4BNL	27
W4NFG	26
WC4FSU	18
WD3B	16
KJ4G	16
K4LSB	10
KJ4HGH	3

Public Service Honor Roll

CALLSIGN	TOTAL
KF4DVF	159
N9MN	110
KI0JO	110
WR4FSU	110
KZ8Q	90
WB4RJW	90
KJ4G	81
WC4FSU	78
KLSB	70
WD3B	66
KJ4HGH	53



NET	ABB.	QNI	QTC	QND	SESS	MGR
Florida Phone Traffic Net	FPTN	1156	204	871	31	WR4FSU/
Northern Florida ARES Net	NFARES	1692	46	836	26	W4NFG
Northern Florida D Star Net	NFDSN	45	5	54	4	W4NFG
Northern Florida D-Rats Net	NFDRN	43	0	70	4	W4NFG
Florida Mid Day Traffic Net	FMTN	280	45	305	31	K4EEI
Tropical Fast Net	TFN	316	40	271	31	KA1G
Volusia County Traffic Net	VCTN	181	10	345	31	KA1G
Gulf Coast VHF Training Net	GCVTN	970	28	470	31	K4QBH
Lake County ARES Net	LCARES	163	13	201	13	N4KXO
Walton County Amateur Radio Club	WCARC	292	15	260	13	KJ4JAH
Seminole VHF Traffic Net	SVTN	537	26	506	30	KG4QCD
North Florida Phone Net	NFPN	1908	15	768	31	AI4GF
Holmes County Amateur Radio Club	HCARC	75	15	260	13	N4LMI

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

- September 16, 2016— The ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference, St. Petersburg, FL <http://www.tapr.org>
- 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>
- 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
- 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

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

- 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 option.

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 WIRES-X System in FM (not digital)	442.950 (DCS023) North Area 444.800 (100 Hz) South Area	Monday, 1930 CHANGE
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
TFN Tropical Florida Sideband Traffic Net	3940	Daily, 2145
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, 2030
VCTN Volusia County Traffic Net	147.150, +.600, tone 127.3 145.330, -.600, tone 127.3 (Alt)	Daily, 2245
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.