



# QST NFL



*Providing timely and interesting information to Radio Amateurs in North Florida*

Volume 3, Issue 8

August 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!*



I had a blast at the Milton Hamfest! What a fine event! A good turnout, good weather (a bit hot, but the building was air conditioned), some of the best Hamfest food around. And what a warm welcome I got not only when I arrived, but the throughout the whole event. A rousing success!!

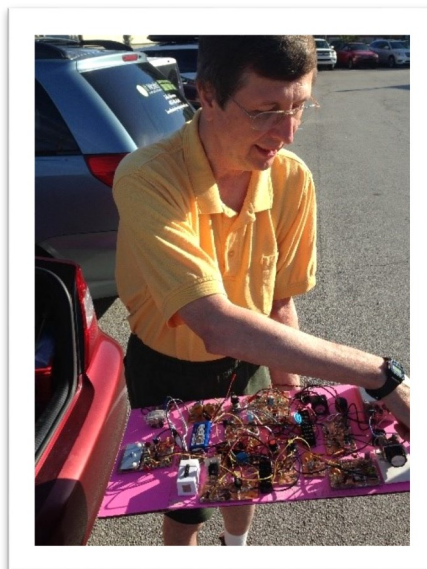


I also got to spend time with my "ham radio hero" the one and only **Frank Butler W4RH** – we had a great visit.



**Frank W4RH and NFL SM Steve WB4OMM**

This past weekend on Saturday, I joined the great folks with the Central Florida QRP Club in Sanford – a light turnout but these folks are dedicated – you have to be dedicated to brave the 110+ heat index to work outdoor portable QRP CW in Florida! One of those intrepid folks **Walter Legan KA4KXX** brought a homebrew "modular" 40M 5W CW transceiver he had been working on – it is amazing! And it works!!



## Section Manager, Continued

Finally, the next day (Sunday) I also had a great visit with QCWA Citrus Chapter 45 in Casselberry. I got there a few minutes late (due to the never ending delays on the I-4 "parking lot") but got to say hello and pass on ARRL information to the group there. Another fine group of hams. It is wonderful to meet so many friendly and talented hams in my travels. While some of these "field visits" are a bit long (the Milton Hamfest is an 8-hour one-way drive for me), it is always worth it! THANK YOU FOR WELCOMING ME TO YOUR FUNCTIONS! Hams are WONDERFUL PEOPLE!

Kudos again to our fabulous media team of Newsletter Editor – **Marty Brown WB2VYK** [wb2vyk@gmail.com](mailto:wb2vyk@gmail.com) and Webmaster – **Bert Garcia N8NN** [n8nn@earthlink.net](mailto:n8nn@earthlink.net). I cannot express how much these two do to make our section good, and keep us informed. While I'm at it, check out the new Winlink2K information on the web page, courtesy of **Gordon Gibby KX4Z** – great stuff!

**New appointments this month:** EC Suwanee County **Dave Phinney K4VLF**; Official Observer **Bob Cumming W2BZY**, Official Relay Stations **Bob Straughn WR4FSU**, and **Helen Straughn, WC4FSU**. Congratulations to all, and THANK YOU for contributing your time, efforts and skills to better our hobby/service! Section Leadership Officials can be located on the NFL Web Page - [http://arrrl-nfl.org/?page\\_id=2781](http://arrrl-nfl.org/?page_id=2781).

*My scheduled visits to Hamfests and "tailgates", club and ARES meetings for August: **NONE (Vacation!)***

It's HOT out there! If you venture out, stay hydrated and use care in how long you remain in the elements; Heat Stroke/Heat Exhaustion comes quick.

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

**EVERYONE COUNTS!**



## Northern Florida STM Reports for June 2016

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

### Station Activity Reports

CALLSIGN	TOTAL
KI0JO	585
KZ8Q	208
WB4RJW	80
N9MN	60
KJ4G	31
W4NFG	28
KJ4HGH	18

### Public Service Honor Roll

CALLSIGN	TOTAL
KF4DVF	176
N9MN	110
KI0JO	100
KJ4G	91
KZ8Q	80
WB4RJW	80
WD3B	75
KJ4HGH	68



NET	ABB.	QNI	QTC	QND	SESS	MGR
Florida Phone Traffic Net	FPTN	1211	297	1055	30	WR4FSU/ N4GMU
Northern Florida ARES Net	NFARES	1645	47	827	26	W4NFG
Northern Florida D Star Net	NFDSN	74	5	79	5	W4NFG
Northern Florida D-Rats Net	NFDRN	55	1	92	5	W4NFG
Florida Mid Day Traffic Net	FMTN	245	70	347	29	K4EEI
Tropical Fast Net	TFN	336	109	455	30	KA1G
Volusia County Traffic Net	VCTN	115	18	316	30	KA1G
Gulf Coast VHF Training Net	GCVTN	989	31	408	30	K4QBH
Lake County ARES Net	LCARES	198	13	231	13	N4KXO
Walton County Amateur Radio Club	WCARC	351	13	325	13	KJ4JAH
Seminole VHF Traffic Net	SVTN	460	62	492	28	KG4QCD
North Florida Phone Net	NFPN	1783	43	724	30	AI4GF

## Emerald Coast Amateur Radio Association (ECARA) Field Day

Steve VanDenAkker, W4SJV

Submit your input for QST NFL to  
[wb2vyk@gmail.com](mailto:wb2vyk@gmail.com)

Here is a picture from the Emerald Coast Amateur Radio Association (ECARA – Navarre, FL) field day site. The picture has four of our members, all technician licensees, attempting to get a contact during Field Day. Pictured left to right are **Clint Southwell, KK4NDU**; **Jon Holladay, KM4QQO**, **Jack Holladay, KM4QQN**; and **Dianne Bayless, KK4DED**.

**Clint KK4NDU** stepped up and coordinated our effort this year. We operated in front of the Navarre Radio Shack which is next to a very busy Publix grocery store. We had many people walk up and ask about Amateur Radio and we spread the word about our hobby and what Field Day is all about. Although we only operated about 10 hours, a great time was had by all.



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# Countdown to W4DXCC

September 23-24th 2016 - MainStay Suites and Conference Center, Pigeon Forge, TN

Sept 23-24

Pigeon Forge, TN

### W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention

If you have not heard about the W4DXCC DX and Contest convention, it's a yearly convention held in Pigeon Forge TN in September and this year is our 12th year. It's a gathering of Hams who come together to listen to presentations on DX and Contesting. On Friday we hold a Ham Radio BootCamp for new and older hams alike that teaches basic need to know things every ham should know. Some hams were lucky enough to have an Elmer, someone who guides them to learn the hobby. Other hams became hams because they would like to learn and know about how to operate and use amateur radio. The BootCamp can help new and older hams learn more about what amateur radio is. It's kind of the Elmer you did not have. I suggest that all new hams attend this Friday BootCamp. Read more about it here [Ham Radio BootCamp](#).

Each year we have TOP equipment manufacturers come and set up in the lobby, right outside of the convention hall. They come to give each attendee the opportunity to speak with the representative directly, one on one. You have a chance to play with that new gear you have been wanting. These Top manufacturers come for you so come meet these fine people face to face.

Dave Anderson, K4SV  
W4DXCC Leader  
[Dave@W4DXCC.com](mailto:Dave@W4DXCC.com)



## July Activities for the North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC)

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

Last months' time line was just enough to get in a Field Day Report. We have taken a closer look at our statistics and found we had 177 contacts and with bonus points a 1606 score. Not quite as high as we would like, but a springboard for next year. The official total of participants - club members, other hams, and non-ham visitors was 63! I would like to see even more next year. We learned a lot and look forward to Field Day 2017.

The visitor count also led to new opportunities for community service. As mentioned last month, one of our field day visitors was a Crestview City Councilman. He was on the front page of our local paper with **Mark KA5NDH**. This has led to numerous conversations about emergency communications capability. We already have a very strong ARES presence in Okaloosa County led by our outstanding Emergency Coordinator, **Steve N4GXX**. Our concern is making sure our north county communities are able to stay in contact with our EOC in the south county. We are working closely with ARES, the County EM, and our local city government to ensure constant communication so in the event of emergency, Okaloosa County speaks with one loud, clear, and unified voice. NO-ARC looks forward to playing a major role.

Three days after Field Day, NOARC was honored to receive a check for \$2000 from the Crestview Rotary Club. These funds will be put towards the construction of an Operations and Training Facility (OTF) for NOARC. We have worked hard to be a leader in community service and these funds will help us improve our capability. We still have a long way to go, but this demonstration of confidence by this prestigious community service organization lets us know we are on the right track.

Shortly after, was the Fourth of July. The city of Crestview celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> and their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a great day at our local park and their largest fireworks display ever! Our current activities director, **Daniel KK4VAX** and our previous activities director, **Cal W4GMH** teamed together to help place vendors and operate a club station at the park. We were quite visible to the community and it gave us an additional chance to string a quick dipole. **Bob W5RE** showed off his archery skills by stringing both ends of

the dipole in trees using bow and arrow. Thanks one and all to those participating!

The following weekend was the Hamfest put on by the Milton ARC. It was once again a class event although I would have loved it even more had I won one of the major prizes! It was great to see our Northern Florida Section Manager, **Steve Szabo WB4OMM** again. I am not sure you can get any more enthusiastic about all aspects of ham radio than he is. In addition, we saw ARRL Honorary Vice President and former Southeast Division Director **Frank Butler W4RH**. We are lucky to have Frank as a member of our club.

A short time later, on Thursday 14 July was our monthly business meeting. Yet again, we had plenty to talk about as our club continues to grow. A whopping 23 club members showed up for this meeting. As part of the sign in, we ask our members to log their Community and Ham Radio Volunteer hours, and this includes Field Day. These 25 folks put in an astounding 336 hours of Community and Ham Radio service. Our club Secretary **Shirley KK4PUG**, wishing to light a fire under the clubs quest for an OTF, issued a \$25 challenge to our club members to donate to our building fund. We brought in a few dollars immediately, I will be donating next month to help keep our Treasurer **Bruce KN5DLV** busy! Thanks Shirley, that was a great idea.

Over the following 2 weeks, we continued our quest to attain 501(c)(3) status. With the help of our friends in south Okaloosa county, the Playground Amateur Radio Club (PARC) and their club president **Neil KK4VHX**, we are on the cusp of making it. This is another example of the cooperation between the radio clubs in Okaloosa county as well as with the Twin-City Club also here in the county and those in Walton, Milton and Navarre.

As the month came to a close, NOARC held their monthly Tech Night on July 28. We opted to move the venue to another facility better suited to the larger numbers, the Convergence Coffee House in downtown Crestview. We have a new "problem" we are getting many new hams in our club. (What a great problem to have!) This Tech Night was designed to break into smaller group and allow our experienced members to

NOARC, Continued

help mentor some of our newer hams. It was an overwhelming success on so many levels. Our new folks had opportunities to ask questions, some of our experience members learned from some of the things our new members had already researched. The hour just flew by for our 23 members in attendance. I let folks know our hour was up, but  $\frac{3}{4}$  stayed to continue conversing and enjoying the fellowship. Another hour passed and we still had about half our folks remaining. We finally had to run the folks out so our sponsors **Rob KM4SPJ** and **Karen KM4SPI** could lock up. We continued our fellowship at the local Burger King where the management has generously offered 10% to our members on meeting nights. And while we were at the meeting, **Mike KK4LLS** served as net control for the very first time on the Gulf Coast VHF Training Net – The GCVTN.

As you can see, It has been one great month for NOARC. Before I close, I would like to recognize our new licensees and new members:

**Arc KM4VLD** (New Ham), **Ted KM4SRO** (New Ham), **JD KM4SPH** (New Ham), **Rich N4DPM**, **Milt KM4VLB** (New Ham), **Rodney KJ4JAH**, **Michael KK4LLS** (New Ham), **Karen KM4SPI** (New Ham), **Rob KM4SPJ** (New Ham), **T.H. KM4TJI**

73,

Ron Mahn, KI5FR

Website: [www.w4aaz.org](http://www.w4aaz.org)Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthOkaloosaARC/>

Submit your input for QST NFL to [wb2vyk@gmail.com](mailto:wb2vyk@gmail.com)

# 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](http://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](mailto: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](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](mailto: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](http://www.suwanneearc.org) for more information

## Section Nets.....

For net details go to [www.arri-nfl.org](http://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	<a href="http://sarnetfl.com">http://sarnetfl.com</a>	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](http://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](mailto:wb2vyk@gmail.com).