



QST NFL



Providing timely and interesting information to Radio Amateurs in North Florida

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www.arrrl-nfl.org

May 2018

Steve's Take:

NFL Section Manager
Steve Szabo, WB4OMM



Greetings North Florida
Hams! **Welcome to the GREATEST
HOBBY IN THE WORLD!**

Summer has arrived in Daytona Beach. How do I know? Because I have antenna work to do and the daily temps are in the mid-80s already. While the humidity is still "down" (only 65%), outdoor laboring makes for some profuse perspiration! Shame on me for waiting so long!

The election voting for the NFL Section Manager position ends May 20th— I hope you voted!!!

As I write this, the upcoming weekend is the Florida QSO Party. Some of my comrades (henchmen?) will be with me as we traverse the "wilds of the Florida interior". We operate a multi-operator (4 of us), multi-transmitter (2), mixed mode (SSB and CW), mobile (we travel through 8 counties in 2 days) operation. The purpose of the operation? We have fun — we pick on each other and use the event as an excuse to have dinner at the Blackwater Inn in Astor (Lake County) Saturday night! Frank KB4T, Bob W2EJG, Kevin KK4BFN and myself have completed this adventure for many years, and each year is more fun than the last! Great laughs and great food. I hope you participate in our home state contest!

Dayton (Xenia?) Hamvention is in a few weeks. My brother John KI4LOL and I will attend both the Hamvention and the Four Days in May (FDIM) events in the area. We're driving but making a two day up and back trip so we're not worn out for the festivities. Wednesday night I'll be in the NAQCC Sprint from Cleveland, TN; Thursday night is the CWOps dinner; Saturday the FDIM Banquet. Not sure where Friday will lead us, but I'm thinking of joining my good friends from the Orlando ARC for dinner maybe! Friday and Saturday morning look for me at the ARRL Radio-Sport Booth performing "card checking" for awards. The rest of the time I'll be visiting ham friends from all over the

US and the rest of the world. Always nice to have an "eyeball" with someone you work on the radio! Sunday, we head back to Cleveland, TN stopping in Corbin, KY to visit "Where It All Began"the home of Colonel Sanders and Kentucky Fried Chicken! Monday, we finish the ride home.

Please continue to send in the EC Monthly Reports to the NFL Web Page http://arrrl-nfl.org/?page_id=4787 unless otherwise notified by me. It's important to document our activities.

Check out our fabulous NFL Section Web Page <http://arrrl-nfl.org/> - our spectacular Newsletter is here for all to enjoy!

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

EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Steve WB4OMM

Steve Szabo WB4OMM
NFL Section Manager
ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio™
386-566-2085
wb4omm@arrrl.org

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Email your QST NFL input to
WB2VYK@gmail.com

Gainesville Ham Groups Provide Communications Support for the Five Points of Life Marathon Race Event

by James "Gus" Clifton KK4ACA

Five Points of Life (FPOL, <http://www.fivepointsoflife.com>) is a non-profit charitable organization that organizes a marathon race event every year, as part of its effort to raise awareness and to raise life-saving donations. The event features both half- and full-marathon courses throughout the University of Florida campus and the city of Gainesville, Florida.

THE ROLE OF LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO SUPPORT

For over a decade, members of the Gainesville Amateur Radio Society (<http://gars.club/>) and the Alachua County ARES (<http://qsl.net/nf4rc/>) have participated in support of this event. It's a great opportunity for us to run communications for several hours amidst an on-going city-wide "incident", while also interacting with others, like FPOL staff, water station staff, and the race runners.

Along the 26.2-mile race course, there are a certain number of water stations, eleven of them this year. For each station, multiple resources need to be planned for, and delivered on time: tents, tables, chairs, water, water cups, ice, snacks, port-o-potties, signage, etc. Many of these resources come from different contractors at different times of day from early that morning or the night before. And then there's the station staff too: some handle the drinks and snacks at the water tables, some help to guide the runners in the right direction, and some stations also have "med tents" with medically-trained staff.

Now how to make sure that everything has been delivered and that all stations are staffed? That's where the role of amateur radio comes in, reporting that someone has not arrived, or something has not been delivered. We place at least one radio volunteer at each water station, and all participate in a two-meter voice net over a local repeater run by other hams at our Net Control Station (NCS), aided by another, the Event Liaison, who is in position to get questions to, and information from the appropriate event staff.

Aside from handling the issues above, we also pass along any questions or information that race runners or station staff may have for us. In addition we also record the times at which the first runner and the final runner pass each station, in a continuing effort to help organize future events.

WHAT WE DID NEW THIS YEAR

This year we received a new request from the event organizers: is it possible to report not just the passing of the first and last runners from each station, but to record and report the racers' bib numbers of the first five men, the first five women, and the last five men and last five women runners passing by each station?

We said, "We never have before-- but we'll try!"

They were requesting this from us for two reasons. First, to help keep the crowd at the finish line more engaged during the several hours that a marathon lasts, by being able to call out the bib numbers of the race leaders as they go by station after station. Second, for one reason or another, a full-marathon participant might not run the full marathon, taking the short circuit with the half-marathon runners, and so the question arises as to whether they ran the entire course.

In addition, this year we utilized the national-standard Incident Command System ICS-201 form to capture in one document the information needed by our volunteer ham radio operators.

PREPARATION

For the recording of the new data, we prepared new, expanded tracking forms: one kind for the station communicators to record all the bib numbers at that station, and a second larger form for NCS and the Liaison to track ALL the numbers together, then to share with the race officials, in an ongoing manner as the race went on. Copies were made and distributed. Our NCS prepared to do a lot more handwriting, and our Liaison prepared to use a lot more shoe leather.

EFFECTIVENESS

By and large, it all worked! FPOL staff reported to me that it was great to be able to call the bib numbers out-- in a timely manner!-- to the waiting crowd. And there was indeed an instance early on for the second issue that concerned them: where there appeared to be a full-marathon runner coming in quite early ahead of the rest, and the race officials suspected that she had merely taken the shorter half-course. They contacted our Liaison, he brought that question to our

Gainesville Five Points of Life (Continued)

NCS, they put out the call to the station communicators to verify, and indeed we were able to confirm that this runner had not passed any of the later full-marathon stations, and thus it was indeed a case of a short-circuit.

FOR THE NEXT TIME

The new, expanded forms did not quite capture everything that was needed, and several of the hams had to improvise along the way. We will evaluate these innovations and aim to include them on updated forms for use next year.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS YEAR

Net Control Station: Shannon Boal K4GLM and Debra Boal KI4CVS

Event Liaison: Allan West WA4JD

Station Communicators: Carol Chesney KG4FEX, Vann Chesney AC4QS, Don Furlong KM4EOY, Gordon Gibby KX4Z, Susan Halbert KG4VWI, Andy Hunn K4AGI, Jeff Capehart W4UFL, Gus Clifton KK4ACA, Cindy Grant KM4YGG, Art Grant KM4YGH, Brian Owens KK4LXG, Rick Whitney W4AZJ, Pete Winters W4GHP, and Beverly Winters KM4MNV

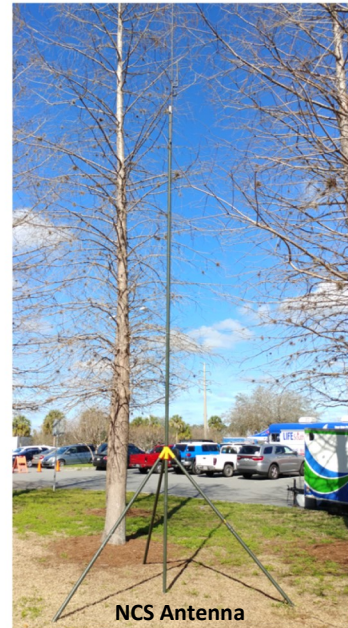


Photo by Alan West, WA4JD



NCS Station

Photo by Alan West WA4JD



Cindy Grant, KM4YGG

Photo by Art Grant, KM4YGH

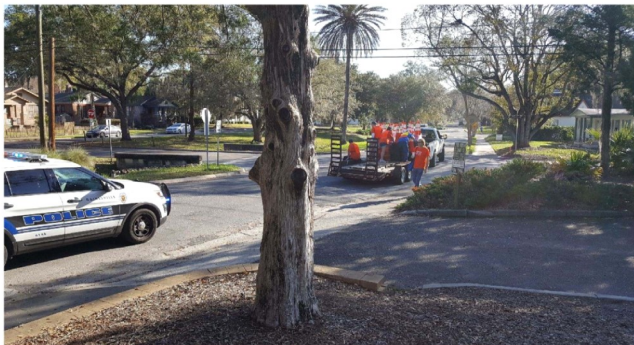


Photo by Jeff Capehart, W4UFL



Cindy Grant, KM4YGG

Photo by Carol Chesney, KG4FEX

ARRL Northern Florida Section Manager Race—Ballots due May 18th

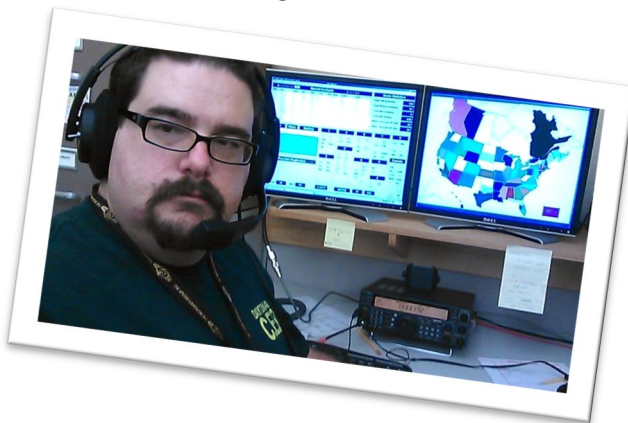
Kevin Bess, KK4BFN

My name is Kevin Bess, KK4BFN, and I am requesting your vote for NFL Section Manager. A little about myself, I have lived in Volusia County since 1988; first licensed March of 2011, now an Extra. I am a member of the Daytona Beach CERT Amateur Radio Team, Daytona Beach Amateur Radio Association, Volusia ARES, a VE, OO, and a member of Florida Contest Group.

Employed in a job that sends me all over North and Central Florida, this gives me an excellent opportunity to experience different nets, operate on many repeaters, and meet with many other amateurs. I primarily operate voice, but do digital work and a little CW.

I am running for Section Manager because....

[Read more about KK4BFN on QRZ.com...](#)

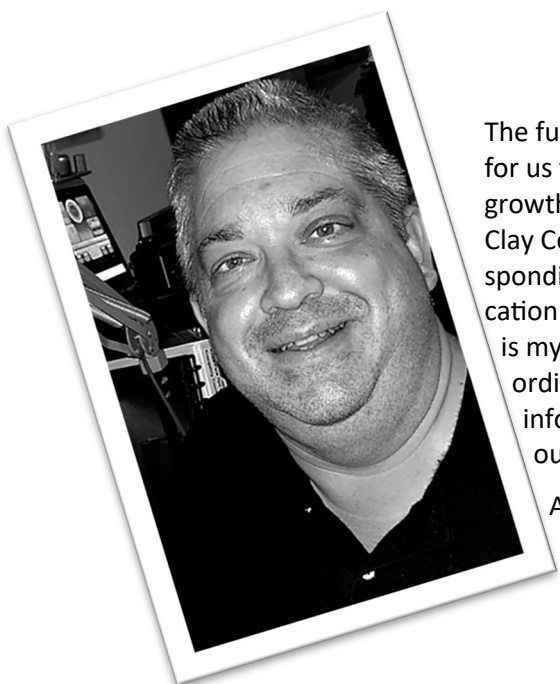


Scott Roberts, KK4ECR

The future of amateur radio is bright. Exciting changes and challenges continue for us to enjoy the hobby and contribute to society. This is evident in the growth of our Amateur Radio Emergency Service organizations here in Clay County, doubling membership and attendance in meetings and nets, responding during hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, and Irma, providing communication support for the county emergency operations center and each shelter. It is my privilege to serve as the liaison to the emergency operations center, coordinating deployments during all three hurricanes. My role as section public information officer has allowed me to promote amateur radio through various television and print public interest stories.

As the Northern Florida Section Manager I will...

[Read more about KK4ECR on QRZ.com...](#)



It's Not Rocket Science...

Marty Brown, WB2VYK, Editor

Every month I look forward to receiving information from all over the section, pulling it together and creating **QST NFL** for that month.

Every month I am humbled by the number of people who take time out of their ARES activities, DX hunting, equipment building or contesting to make sure I'm copied on articles of interest to the Northern Florida Section.

What I do here is not rocket science, but what NFL Section members are doing really is.

I was recently reminded by a regular contributor that not everyone who sees this publication has spent the last 30 years doing what we once called "desktop publishing." Huh! That's a good point.

Every month I am asked by a new contributor if their input is "okay." So, today I am speaking to these folks, and everyone else who doesn't think they have the skills to send me input for **QST NFL**.

The only thing you really need is email. Just type your information into an email. I can format it and get it into the newsletter. If you have a picture, attach it and include a caption for it in the body of your email. Picture formats can be .jpg, .png, .pdf. If you have something else, we'll work it out.

However, it will make your life easier if you have a word processor. Lots of folks have Microsoft Word, but there are free word processors like Open Office also.

<https://www.openoffice.org/download/>

Open Office is compatible with the Microsoft suite of applications.

Using the word processor method you can create your article in the word processor, attach it and any pictures to an email and send it to me. Don't worry about font type or size. Don't try to format your text and pictures unless you just like to do this stuff. And, if so, stand by, I may have a job for you!

Now, let's talk about content. The purpose of the newsletter is communication among radio clubs and organiza-



tions around the section. We are all looking for ways to make our organizations better. We can learn a lot from each other. So, let's hear about ...

- After Action Report from an ARES exercise
- Public events like having a table at the local farmers' market, or community gathering
- How you provided communications for activities like charity runs and walks
- Awards received by your members or organization
- Technical projects your group is working on
- Repeater upgrades and activities
- Contesting methods and results
- Hamfests
- DXpeditions
- Field Day activities
- Social activities like Holiday parties, FD picnics

Does your organization have a Public Information Officer? Every organization should have this position on its Board of Directors. Newspapers and local radio stations are looking for new information. Find out who the contact might be for Amateur Radio activities and put them, along with me, on the email list for your submissions.

Wait a Minute! What about the web site?

<http://www.arri-nfl.org>

Web Master, Bert, N8NN, reports: "My specs for the website are simple. Send me the article in PDF with photos imbedded where you want them. I can handle other formats, but the end result will be a PDF on the website. There is not a lot of flexibility for layout and artwork on the WordPress website, so authors need to get the layout presentation correct in the PDF submission. If the photos and artwork are not original, the source needs to be cited".

You can email Bert at: bertgarcia73@gmail.com

QCWA Chapter 62

Ken Simpson, W8EK, President

Ocala Chapter 62 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) met on April 26 at the Grace Buffet on SW Route 200 in Ocala.

The upcoming Florida QSO party was discussed, along with the QCWA QSO Party held in March.

Doug Hawkins, W3HH, talked about his recent cruise which included stops at St. Kitts and Martinique, as well as in San Juan. Unfortunately, he did not get to operate from any of these choice DX spots. Mike Walker, K9SSL, talked about the QCWA 70th anniversary cruise.

President Ken Simpson, W8EK, presented a program about a voltage reference module that is available on line. It provides a very precision 10 volt reference



source for calibrating voltmeters. It is only about an inch square, and the good part is it only costs about \$3.50 shipped.

Some pictures of our members enjoying the Grace Buffet cuisine are included.

Chapter 62 meets at 12:30 PM on the fourth Thursday of the even numbered months (February, April, etc.) at the Grace Buffet, 7859 SW State Rd 200, Ocala, FL. It is located in the same complex as the new Neighborhood WalMart, just to the west of the WalMart and behind the large ice cream cone. Our next meeting will be June 28. If you are in the area, we invite you to join us.



N8AJU, WA2FRW, W2AS



W1DOH, W3HH XYL, W3HH, N4FP, KM4KKL,
WB4BKO XYL, WB2VYK



W8DYV, K9SSL



W8DYV, KA1CX, WB4BKO

What is THAT?

Carl Berry, KC5CMX, AEC, Marion County ARES

Marion County ARES went into the field on April 21 for an exercise with the Marion County Sheriffs Office. We passed voice and Winlink messages to both the EOC and hospital in the ICS format. The exercise was great and tested what we are capable of.

As it isn't always practical to set up tower and big antennas in the field, sometimes you need something else, and this is the tool for the job. The trailer is equipped with a Mosley TA 33 Jr. triband antenna. It has the capability of adding on a G5RV-mini to the mast and the other end thrown in a tree or tied off on the truck toolbox. (low angle dipole), or a VHF/UHF antenna. When assembled, the height is about 25'-27' and can go up another 10' if needed. When setup with the ARES trailer, we can setup a portable repeater for field use, either to work locally in a disaster or for longer distances so we can get back to civilization. When properly grounded, I have worked across the USA and Europe. **As the battery is solar powered, it can also power the repeater.**

The setup is a home brewed catapult mounted on a trailer. Complete with winch & motion activated work light all working with a solar charged battery. It is designed to be able to setup in less than 30 minutes with two people working on assembly. If needed, the battery is setup with a power point to be able to plug in a radio. Normally, we have a generator for the ARES trailer equipment, so the rotator operation is no problem, however, there is rope available, so we can drag the antenna to whatever direction we need it in the event we run out of gas.

To solve the problem of having to rewire the rotator to the control box each time it is used, I use regular RJ11 jacks and 6 conductor wire (3 pair). Because it is designed to be a quick put up and tear down, the jacks are just hot glued to the units. If they need to be replaced or repaired, you can just pop them off. The trailer has been used for Field Day, JOTA, the Florida QSO Party, as well as exercises and just for the "fun of the hobby". It stands ready to deploy almost any place in the state (after the tires get aired up).

Antenna assembly has been simplified. I put colored tape on the elements & traps, and zip ties to mark the distance in that the traps go. Using screws all the time causes the holes to warble out, so to get around that problem I slit the ends of the elements about 1" - 1 1/2" and use hose clamps for compression to keep the traps in place. **DON'T LAUGH, IT WORKS!**

Each time I take this out, I learn something new or a better shortcut. One of the things I'll share is that whenever possible, set it up with the trailer tongue facing north and make sure the rotator motor is attached so the motor



is "down" on the mast and the marking arrows are lined up. Also, with the antenna assembly, put the director (shorter of the three elements) facing north as well. The rotator is a Radio Shack TV antenna type. The brake isn't the best but will work well in low winds. Reason for going with this was the weight of a regular ham rotator and 4 pair (8 wire) rotor cable was too much stress on the wood and pipe. With the antenna attached, it would be too much to safely lift or lower.

The winch is a 2500 lb. capacity unit from Harbor Freight. Originally, it was wireless but with all the difficulties of water damage, it was wired with 2 12v auto relays and switch to raise and lower. WAY better than wireless! The motor is mounted on a steel plate between the legs and the switch is mounted in a box on the right side of the trailer rail. The orange tape hanging from the reflector is so in low visibility conditions you can see which way it is pointed.

Originally, I had to assemble this thing each time I used it and took about an hour and a half to set up. Eventually, I obtained a trailer and installed the device it. With some judicious engineering from members of the Silver Springs Radio Club (K4GSO) in Ocala, FL, it morphed into what it is now. Special thanks go out to Ed and Steve (callsigns withheld) for their outstanding work in design and assembly. When the concept was still being developed, Ed affectionately named it the Chuck-a-pault. (I'm not going into that one), and the name stuck. Now, it is ready to go out as needed for events.

Shortly, I will get a parts list and diagram of how to make your own "Chuck-a-pault".

Be sure to check out the ARES website at

<http://aresmcfi.org> and the

SSRC website <http://k4gso.us>.

We also have a Facebook page.

<http://k4gso.us/hamfest/> Dec 1— See you there!

Hog County ARA Participates In...

Gene King, KI4LEH, President

A few of us from the Hog County Amateur Radio Association here in Sumter County, Florida participated in the "Florida State Parks on the Air" event the weekend of April 7 & 8, 2018. We had a couple from our association operating from their RV, and then we had a small Cargo Type trailer set up to operate out of.

While we enjoyed our time in the park, and we gave it our best, the bands were just not too cooperative for us so we didn't make too many contacts. But equally as important is the fact we were set up in the parking lot, right inside the entrance and therefore were there for all park attendees to at least see our signs and see what we were doing.

Events of this nature need to go beyond "contesting" and seeking numbers and lean toward the public display opportunity that we have. A great way to showcase amateur radio and maybe plant that one seed which will grow at some point.

Not sure how many other NFL Section folks participated in the event but I'm sure all who did at least appreciated the opportunity.



Scratch Ankle Bicycle Race

West Panhandle District ARES groups

After Action Report

Daisy Crepeau, KT4KW – Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Santa Rosa County, FL



March 24, 2018, Blackwater River State Forest, Munson, FL

Summary

On Saturday, March 24, 2018 the West Panhandle District ARES groups participated in a 30 mile, 100K and 100-mile bicycle race by providing radio support at each of 6 aid stations and the start/finish line. This race took place in parts of 2 counties (Santa Rosa and Okaloosa) in a forest that encompasses almost 200,000 acres.

15 Amateur Radio Operators and stations.

- 5 from Escambia County
- 5 Okaloosa County ARES
- 5 Santa Rosa County ARES
(includes EC and 3 Asst.ECs)

Radio Modes Used

Net Control established the net using one frequency: 147.360 (W4AAV), the North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC) Crestview repeater. Simplex was not used because the distance between stations was too great and heavily wooded terrain was not conducive to simplex operation. Aid Station #1 was at near the intersection of Munson Hwy and Monk Crain Rd., Aid Station #2 was intersection of Hwy 4 and Barton Road, Aid Station #3, at Kennedy Bridge Rd, Aid Station #4, Krul Lake Airfield, Aid Station #5 was at Camp Henderson Road, Jay and Aid Station #6 was located on Frank Pitman Rd. Milton. Net Control was collocated with Aid Station #4 at Krul Lake Airfield. Cyclists utilized paved roads, gravel roads and clay roads.

The race began at 10:00 AM on March 24th. Net control started radio operations 9:30 AM and operated continuously until 5:20 PM when the last cyclist crossed the finish line. The operators at each Aid Station came to Net Control at the end of their shift.

Tactical call signs consisting of the number of each aid station were used.

The tasking from the race coordinators was that we would be used to report cyclist or bike injury, emergency or needing to be picked up due to fatigue and the time each cyclist came through each aid station.

What was learned –

We had good response from the area operators. We did need more operators at aid stations #1 and 2. It was almost impossible to catch all the plate numbers that were attached to the front of the bikes. At this point in the race the cyclists were bunched up and some of the plate numbers were bent, folded over, or otherwise obscured. One enterprising operator took a video and then when there was a lull played it back and was able to see a lot of the numbers which were then relayed to net control.

Additional Comments –

Overall the event was a resounding success! It was a beautiful day with plenty of sunshine, a lot of wind which required copious amounts of tape to hold the paper work in place, but all went well. There was some confusion about who would be going on the 100-mile leg of the race, but we operators knew who took the turn and were able to relay this information to the race coordinators.



Alachua ARES Lightning/EMP Protection, Antenna Training & Shelter Information System

by Gordon Gibby

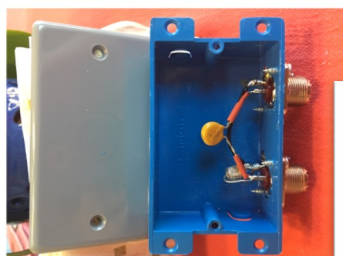
Alachua County ARES worked on *antennas* in March! Our **LunchNLab** for the month started off at Wendy's with a record 11 participants and then moved to my house, took up soldering irons and built all manner of lightning/EMP protection systems. These were done by soldering in gas discharge arrestors, same as are in commercial units, capable of handling spikes up to 20,000 amperes. \$3 from Digi-Key. They can be soldered from center conduct to shield at any 50 ohm point in the antenna system – and hams added them to SWR meters, antenna tuners, and even simple electrical boxes equipped with double SO-239's. While grounding isn't important for the EMP aspect, it is crucially important for lightning, or nearby-lightning protection, so groundwire connection points were solidly installed in these devices as well! (See: <http://arri-nfl.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Lighting-EMP-Arrestor.pdf>)

This is the 2nd major “soldering” project for Alachua ARES and members are gaining skills! According to past QST articles and current Department of Homeland Security research, these types of protection are great steps to take, and are part of “Level II” EMP protection. (See: <http://qsl.net/nf4rc/2018/DHSEMPRec.pdf> and <http://qsl.net/kx4z/QST-Electromagnetic Pulse and the Radio Amateur.pdf>)

Additionally, we had a talk on 14 antenna types that could be workable even in an Apartment or Home Owners Association setting. <http://www.qsl.net/nf4rc/2018/HOA&ApartmentAntennas.pdf>

We're beginning to gear up for the hurricane season and two new leaders in our group are writing our spring/summer Full Scale Exercise. (See: <http://www.qsl.net/nf4rc/2018/Waccasassa%20Wildfire%20201%20word.pdf>) Reviewing the excellent After Action Report/Improvement Plan from our County Emergency Management office, we detected a need for improved information dispersal and “situational awareness” in county Hurricane Shelters. (See:

<http://alachuacofl.civicclerk.com/Web/GenFile.aspx?ad=8530>) Thirteen shelters were opened emergently last fall and managers had little means to disperse updates throughout larger school structures. We've come up with a prototype ham radio WIFI web server system that can be loaded with updated information sent over Ham Radio. It uses a simple Raspberry PI without screen or keyboard, and any inexpensive or surplus home WIFI router. Updated bulletins and proloaded information are then available on its web pages to any laptop or smartphone throughout its coverage area that can connect to it (no password required) and reach either hamradioband.com (our domain) or 10.10.10.10 using a web browser. Simple consumer “wifi extenders” could be used to extend the range. Most of these type devices can be powered by low voltage DC batteries. The County EM is intrigued by this proposal to address their Improvement Plan Sheltering Issue SHLT-007. For information on how to duplicate this prototype in your area, see: <http://arri-nfl.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/ShelterWebServerTechnicalDetails.pdf>



Emergency Communications Archive - http://arrrl-nfl.org/?page_id=1456

Gordon Gibby, KX4Z

At the 2018 Emergency Symposium (Feb 24), the Full Scale Exercise included a number of different tasks that the amateur radio team volunteers needed to complete in support of the local Emergency Manager at his request in the simulation. The tasks and scenarios were written by me, with input from the local Asst. Emergency Manager (who participated in the Symposium!). These tasks ranged from creating a simple vhf Command Net to more complex tasks, such as providing replacement broadcasting assets that could be used by public service authorities to give important and reassuring information to the public, after all other broadcasting facilities were knocked out. (That actually happened of course in Katrina and in other situations.)

Of the 10 tasks assigned, ***only a few were completed successfully*** --- volunteer meeting participants

realized that they didn't quite know how to take the fullest advantage of their amateur license and/or radios! There was a lot of room for growth and improvement!

My local E.C., Jeff Capehart, suggested that I work through explaining how amateur radio operators could carry out each of these tasks -- and this article is the first in a series to explain just that. We did a quick-and-dirty explanation in limited time at the Symposium, but of course we couldn't go through all the details for several of them.... so by getting them on the web site, http://arrrl-nfl.org/?page_id=1456, we can direct the EC's and AEC's and other meeting participants in the NFL area to these educational articles to become better prepared. One team from the Panhandle declared they would be MUCH BETTER PREPARED next year!!

Pre-Hurricane Season Emergency Communications Reading list

Gordon Gibby, KX4Z

ARRL After Action Report—Hurricane Season 2017 Tons of great information in that report. <http://www.arrrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/2017%20Hurricane%20Season%20AAR.pdf> There are reports from some NFL Sections in there!

A Failure of Initiative The full impact of just what CAN happen can be seen in the Communications chapter of the Hurricane Katrina report produced by Congress. <http://www.qsl.net/nf4rc/KatrinaComms.pdf>

The ARRL Letter....

The American Radio Relay League.

Do you get **The ARRL Letter**? Click here to see what happening.

<http://www.arrrl.org/arrrlletter?issue=current>

The ARRL Letter is published Thursdays, 50 times each year. ARRL members and registered guests may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe by editing their [profile](#).



FCC Testing Information

LMARS FCC Testing

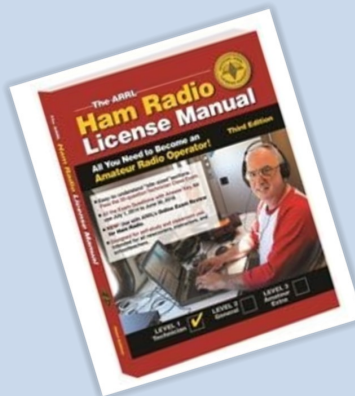
- Every month
- Third Saturday
- 9:15 AM
- Seminole County Sheriff's Office
Off SR 17-92, on 100 Eslinger Way in Sanford
- For more information and registration, contact Bob Cumming, W2BZY, 407-333-0690 or w2bzy@cfl.rr.com

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. 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

Silver Springs Radio Club

- Go to <http://k4gso.us/class/> to sign up for classes
- Go to <http://k4gso.us/test-signup/> for testing. Testing is held on the 2nd Tuesday at 7 PM.
- Note <http://k4gso.us/ncvec605/> is requested to be filled out before you show for testing. It is best to download the form and open it as a PDF so you can fill in the blanks.

Upcoming QSO Parties

Alan Sewell, N5NA

<http://qsoparty.eqth.net/>

Montana	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
Indiana	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Hoosier DX and Contest Club
Utah	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
Connecticut	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	New England QSO Party
Delaware	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	First State Amateur Radio Club
Washington	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
Maine	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	New England QSO Party
Wyoming	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
New Hampshire	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	New England QSO Party
Massachusetts	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	New England QSO Party
Rhode Island	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	New England QSO Party
Nevada	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
Vermont	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	New England QSO Party
Idaho	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
Oregon	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
Arizona	5/5/2018	5/6/2018	Central Oregon DX Club
Arkansas	5/12/2018	5/13/2018	Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest
USA	5/12/2018	5/13/2018	Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club

Links to the NFL Web Site

For net, hamfest and other events go to www.arrl-nfl.org or select the option below. Web Master Bert Garcia, N8NN, maintains an up-to-date and detailed listing of all NFL nets and activities. If you need to make a change to an existing net or activity, or add a new one, contact Bert at: n8nn@arrl.net.

[Section Nets](#)

[Northern Florida STM Report](#)

[Florida Hamfest/Convention Calendar](#)

[Operating Events](#)

[Emergency Communications Archive](#) **New * New * New**



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 – Steve Palmer W4LOM

Assistant SE Coordinator – Robert A. Mitchell W4HKG

Section Technical Coordinator – Frank Haas KB4T

Affiliated Club Coordinator – Steve Palmer W4LOM

Section Traffic Manager – Tom Housworth, KI0JO

Official Observer Coordinator – Rick A. Lloyd AA4W

State Government Liaison – Darrell Brock N4GOA



Newsletter of the Northern Florida Section of the ARRL



1. Spread the word about our website www.arrl-nfl.org and **QST NFL** on your club web-site, in a newsletter or at a meeting.
2. Send a write-up and picture of your next activity.
3. Make sure you, or the appropriate member of your club is on the email reminder list.
4. Contact: Marty Brown WB2VYK, wb2vyk@gmail.com

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.