

Section Manager's Message

August 2018

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

Wow, it's been one month into my term as SM, and I'm still getting used to things. Between trying to fill a few spots, work, and still adjusting to the SM role, I've been busy! I meant to go to Milton this past month, but I didn't plan it right. I also was planning to attend OARC's meeting, but ended up having to work late. It was one of those nights where I didn't get home until after 10 PM! I am planning on attending OARC's meeting this Wednesday, August 1st at 7:30 PM, and making sure my project manager doesn't send me to Timbuktu or something!

As for upcoming hamfests, Pensacola's Hamfest is going to be in September, on the 21st and 22nd. <http://www.pensacolahamfest.com/> I would love to go, but if I did it would probably be a Saturday only. Also, we have the Bahia Shriner's Tailgate happening on the 22nd as well, from 8 AM until noon. <http://radio.bahiashrine.org/Tailgate.htm> If I don't do Pensacola, I will probably go to this one.

As for the section, there have been some new appointments and confirmations. First, I have assigned **Karl Martin, KG4HBN** as the Section Emergency Coordinator. He has done a great job as EC for Volusia County, and I'm confident he will do well as our SEC. Secondly, we have **Doug Ritchie, KF5BCX** as the PIO for Walton County, and last but not least, **Scott Roberts, KK4ECR**, as Section PIC.

For those following HR 555, the Amateur Radio Parity Act, I'm sorry to say that the language for it has been removed from the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The Parity Act would grant radio amateurs living in deed-restricted communities the right to install effective outdoor antennas.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/parity-act-options-open-despite-removal-from-defense-authorization-act-conference-report> It's important to know that there are still other options to see the Parity Act succeed, so let's not give up hope yet!

Well, that's all I have for this report. I want to bid everyone a good day, and close by saying "Get involved, get active, get happy! Stay safe, get on the air, no matter the mode, and have fun!" Amateur radio is the greatest hobby, and I am proud to be a ham!

EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Kevin KK4BFN

NFL Section Manager

ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio™

386-547-2838

kk4bfn@arrl.org