Section Manager's Monthly Message June 2018

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

This is my last monthly Section Manager message – congratulations to **Kevin Bess KK4BFN** for successfully winning the NFL Section Manager election! Next month's message will be his.

I would ask you support as Kevin as he gets acclimated to the position; while it's not, "brain surgery", there is quite a bunch to learn! I will be actively working with Kevin over the next month or so to make it a seamless transition. I will not be going to far, I will be "appointed" as an "Assistant SM" after July 1st! There are no changes planned for any of the leadership positions in the Section – and our wonderful Newsletter editor Marty WB2VYK and Webmeister Bert N8NN are remaining! There will be a new OO Coordinator as Rick AA4W had asked to step down earlier this year, and our SEC Steve W4LOM also is leaving. More on those appointments in the next month when Kevin "officially" take the helm!

I looked back at the last 47 months of my tenure - then took a look at the calendar/mileage logs. Wowwee! 105 Club and ARES group meetings; 69 days at 34 hamfests/tailgates. 17,882 driving miles in-state (Florida) – **not** including the dozens of trips that were anything less than 50 miles round trip and the trips that included air miles! I can't believe it was that much! I can't believe its been four years!

We had tornados and 4 tropical storms/hurricanes that hit our section – plus a winter freeze, wildfires, flooding, and hundreds of "special events" that our folks provided communications support. National Parks on the Air, the "Red Badge Event", and the ARRL Centennial.....plus Orlando ARC hosting the National ARRL Convention! You did it all.....and you folks **DID IT WELL**. I am proud of the time I had with you.

While I cringed at the thought of some of those long trips when leaving, I was truly grateful after I arrived. All of the groups I met and worked with were open, friendly, and inviting! I felt like I was treated as royalty every time. I feel blessed and thankful that all you expended the efforts to make us look so good. Folks, it's not about the radios – it's about the people. Thank you for the wonderful trip!

Please send the EC Monthly Reports to the NFL Web Page http://arrl-nfl.org/?page_id=4787. It's important to document our activities. We have so many!

Check out our fabulous NFL Section Web Page http://arrl-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!! My best wishes to all. Thank you, Northern Florida Section, for a great time!

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EVERYONE COUNTS!

73, Steve WB4OMM Steve Szabo WB4OMM NFL Section Manager

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386-566-2085 wb4omm@arrl.org