

The HIARC Bulletin

October 2018 Edition

The Official Bulletin of the Harris-Intersil Amateur Radio Club

Club Meetings: Second Thursday of Every Month at Meemaw's Barbecue on Babcock Street between Palm Bay Road and Port Malabar Road. Supper is at 6:00 PM and a short business meeting is at 7:00 PM. Our programs start 7:30 to 8:00 PM.

Club Station: Building 15, Room 321. E-mail [Butch](mailto:Butch@hiarc.net) for access.

HIARC Website: <http://qsl.net/hiarc>

Repeaters: 145.47 Mc, tone 107.2 cycles, elevation 170 feet, Melbourne

HIARC Web Site: www.qsl.net/hiarc. Website administrator; Jim, KC7SSW

Officers: President: Francis ("Butch"), WA4AQV

Treasurer: Bill WA4EMU

Secretary: Jim, KC7SSW

Repeater Chairmen: Bud W4HXP

Program Chairman: Eric N4SCS

Field Day Chairman: TBD

Sunshine Officer: Open

Club Jester: Ken N8KH

Membership:

Dues are \$12.00 per year to:

Bill WA4EMU

Annual Events: Annual swap-fest at the October meeting. Field Day (always the fourth full weekend in June) at Grant Community Center Fairgrounds, Field Day web site link <https://sites.google.com/site/hiarcfieldday2013/>

Selected Hamfests:

Melbourne: October 12 and 13, 2018 <http://pcars.org/>

Ham Radio Lunches:

- Every Friday, 10:30 AM till 12:30 PM or so, Golden Corral on Palm Bay Road in Palm Bay
- Every Friday, 9:00 AM till 11:00AM or so, Umpa's Diner, 1115 N Courtenay Pkwy, Merritt Island, FL 3295, (321) 454-3422

President's Message

The Melbourne hamfest is Friday and Saturday October 12 and 13, the day after the HIARC meeting. Details <http://pcars.org/>. Hamfests are volunteer events so I urge all to help out our friends at PCARS in putting on the event. The Melbourne hamfest had more than 1000 persons attend last year.

The October HIARC meeting is this coming Thursday October 11. Dinner starts at 6 PM and the meeting starts at 7:00 PM. The program will be a demonstration of the Collins KWM-2 HF transceiver with a slide presentation by Butch WA4AQV. There will also be some test equipment for door prizes.

October is the annual swap meet meeting so bring something in to sell if you wish. Sometimes we run out and parking lot swap as well just before the business meeting, if you have trunk full.

73's

Butch WA4AQV

New Tropospheric Propagation Record

New 2m tropo DX record set by G3SMT and D4Z, from the west of Wales to the Cape Verde Islands, 4431 km.

<http://QrzNow.com/g3smt-works-cape-verde-islands-to-set-new-144-mhz-tropo-record/>

Eventually the Florida to Ireland path will open on 2m and above, and *somebody* will be the first to work it and establish that record.

N8KH

Description Of WLO Radio Mobile Alabama

WLO was a public coastal radiotelegraph station serving ships at sea for many decades at MF and HF frequencies. <http://www.coastalradio.org.uk/worldcoastal/mobilemarine/mobile.htm> It operated in excess of 340 HF radio frequencies. A Bern sheet indicates the historical frequencies <http://www.coastalradio.org.uk/worldcoastal/mobilemarine/WLO-2-3-4.jpg>

Basically they had TCI loop antenna system which is sectorized every 60 degrees with a beam width of 60 degrees thus providing gain and directivity 360 degrees.

We mainly use those antennas below 10 MHz. Above 10 MHz we have fixed log periodic antennas every 60 degrees. These antennas also have a 60 degree bandwidth.

In addition we have some rotatable log periodics and yagis for 12/16/22 MHz. We also have some fixed wire log periodics on 60 degree and 120 degree bearings. These antennas cover 6 to 30 MHz.

There is also an antenna for NVIS (Horizontal Loop), A broadband dipole and a vertical.

The logs and the loops are summed for omni reception (guard receivers).

All antennas are fed to our antenna matrix switch and can be sent in any combination to any receiver in our facility. In the radio room, the operators can control which antennas are routed to which receivers. We also have a system to do this remotely using our OPCON/ Smart Network Platform interoperability system.

The transmitting antennas are mostly verticals except we use some dipoles and Yagi antennas for certain frequencies. All the verticals have 120 radials and are located in a salt marsh. We do use a tower for MF at the transmit site which also is used for receive on 2182. We are able to do this because we have sufficient filtering at 2182 to keep interference from our other transmitters out of the 2182 receiver.

They used a dedicated transmitter for each frequency. The dedicated transmitter is backed up by two frequency agile transmitters that can be used to cover any frequency in the 2 – 30 MHz band.

Most of the transmitters are 5KW and the frequency agile units are 1KW. We have 2, 10 KW Harris frequency agile transmitters but we do not use them any more as they are power hogs.

Attached are a few pictures.

Ray Stiegler













