

# The HIARC Bulletin

February 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 around 8:00 PM.

**Club Station:** The club station is K4HRS in Building 25, Room 621. E-mail [Butch](mailto:Butch@hiarc.net) to sign up.

**Nets:** The South Brevard Emergency Net meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM local on the 146.85 Mc repeater.

**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](http://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 September 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:

Orlando Hamcation 2-9-17 One of the biggest in the US [www.hamcation.com](http://www.hamcation.com)

Stuart 3-17-17, free friendly and easy drive down I-95, [www.stuarthamfest.com](http://www.stuarthamfest.com)

### 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](tel:(321)454-3422)

### President's Message

The Orlando Hamcation is this weekend. Don't miss. Second biggest in the country.

Below is a list of local repeaters.

### ACTIVE REPEATERS AND SIMPLEX FREQUENCIES

REV  
7/20/2017

OUTPUT FREQ.	OFFSET	TONE	CALL	LOCATION	OWNER
145.130	-600	107.2		INDIAN RIVER	
145.350	-600	103.5		OSCEOLA	
145.370	-600	156.7	W2SDC	COCOA	IRARC
145.470	-600	107.2	K4HRS	MELBOURNE	HIRAC
145.490	-600	100	WN3DHI	TITUSVILLE	NORTH NET

146.610	-600		W4MLB	MELBOURNE	PCARS
146.775	-600	100	KD4HNW	MIMS	TARC
146.850	-600	107.2	W4MLB	PALM BAY	PCARS
146.880	-600			ROCKLEDGE	
<b>146.895</b>	<b>-600</b>		<b>K4EOC</b>	<b>South tower</b>	<b>EOC</b>
146.910	-600	107.2	K4KSC	TITUSVILLE	TARC
146.940	-600		K4GCC	ROCKLEDGE	LISATS
146.970	-600	107.2	K4KSC	TITUSVILLE	TARC
<b>147.075</b>	<b>+600</b>	<b>107.2</b>	<b>K4EOC</b>	<b>North tower</b>	<b>EOC</b>
<b>147.135</b>	<b>+600</b>		<b>K4EOC</b>	<b>ROCKLEDGE</b>	<b>EOC</b>
147.240	-600	123		VOLUSIA	
147.255	+600	107.2	K4DCS	PALM BAY	DCS
444.325	+5000	107.2	K4DCS	PALM BAY	DCS
444.375	+5000	107.2		SEBASTIAN	SARNET
444.425	+5000	107.2		Melbourne	PCARS
<b>444.525</b>	<b>+5000</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>K4EOC</b>	<b>ROCKLEDGE</b>	<b>EOC</b>
444.650	+5000	107.2		COCOA	SARNET
145.010	WINLINK			PALM BAY	DCS
145.020	WINLINK				
145.030	WINLINK				
145.040	WINLINK				
145.050	WINLINK				
146.550	SIMPLEX		K4DCS	SOUTH REGION	DCS
145.540	SIMPLEX		K4EOC	RACES Bay	EOC
146.520	SIMPLEX			GENERAL CALL	
146.580	SIMPLEX			MELBOURNE	PCARS
146.480	SIMPLEX			CENTRAL REG	
146.595	SIMPLEX			NORTH REGION	

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Our next HIARC club meeting is this Thursday February 8 at Meemaw's Barbecue on Babcock Street. 6 PM for dinner 7 PM for the meeting. Program will be on the Ringo Ranger antenna with complete analysis and radiation patterns. Also analyzing interference at your station, including AT&T Uverse DSL Wideband Over Phone Line interference. Spectrum measurements in a local neighborhood and how the Timewave ANC-4 noise canceller worked on it.

73's

Butch WA4AQV

## Harris Engineering Week Booth

The Harris / Intersil Amateur Radio Club, HIARC, will be setting up and running an amateur radio demo booth during National Engineers Week, Feb. 18-24:

<https://www.nspe.org/resources/partners-and-state-societies/national-engineers-week>

Let Robin NT7F know if you are interested in participating

Unfortunately the event is not open to the public or former employees.

## February 24, 2018 Brevard Emergency Communications Drill

There will be a "Hurricane Amanda" amateur emergency communications drill, on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 to 11:30 AM. Please register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/amandadrill>

For those of you unfamiliar with this type of drill Carlos K4CCJ, our RACES Training officer, will have provisions to set up 3 or 4 "shelter" stations in the parking lot of the County EOC. Students are required to bring their own equipment, preferably a go-kit, but HT's will do if it is all the student has. Specifics are listed in the attached link which you can review before signing up.

The drill will go rain or shine as we have provisions for "shelters" under roof if necessary. The only thing that would prevent the drill is severe weather. Once a student provides their email address, any updates on the drill

will be sent directly to them. Unfortunately we do not have a funding source for refreshments. Just as in a real emergency you should bring light snacks and a non-alcoholic beverage of your choice. Note: During an actual hurricane deployment the assigned amateur will be fed by the shelter. But in other disaster situations, amateurs should be prepared to provide their own food/water for at least 48 hours.

Attached a list of the minimum frequencies every emergency amateur should have programmed in their radios. During this exercise it is anticipated we will use the County Central repeater 147.135 as we would in a real event, the IRARC 145.370 repeater for a couple of minutes as an introduction, then switch to simplex for most of the drill.

All registrants must be sure they have these programmed into their rigs if they wish to transmit. We do expect there will be some sharing of equipment. We do not want to discourage any licensed ham from participating just because they do not yet own radio gear. Any club that wishes to test or demonstrate their go-kits is encouraged to participate.

## **Skywarn And The 1998 Kissimmee Tornado**

This is the 20 year anniversary of the worst tornado outbreak in Central Florida history. Here is the story of Skywarn and the Kissimmee tornado(s) that night as I experienced it.

February 22-23, 1998 had the jet stream dipping unusually far south causing the winds aloft of in Central Florida to be very fast. Yet the air on the ground was still. Such a jet stream condition is a rare event for Central Florida. Common for Oklahoma but not us. NWS realized the danger in this issuing tornado watches well ahead of the coming weather. To their credit, NWS even notified emergency management and public safety well ahead. You see, it is rapid winds aloft that power the big tornados.

I was living at the time in rural Osceola County then about 5 miles north of St Cloud on 5 acres. Near midnight a continuous lightning storm raged southwest me and southwest of Kissimmee in the Campbell FL area. Really abruptly all the lightning in that storm stopped and it became dead still at my QTH. I had the windows open and was used to some rural sounds even at 12:15 AM: the crickets, a whip-o-will that sounded about midnight, the horse outside munching hay. Outside me was eerie total stillness, no sounds, no air movement, black sky, no stars.

At the same time there was excellent Skywarn net in progress on the 146.73 MHz downtown Orlando repeater. I had been listening to the West Orange County Tornado(s) being reported. Many good sightings were made. Skywarn was a good source of information as television weather coverage did not even have the radar up.

Amidst my dead calm weather NOAA Weather-radio went off with a Tornado Warning for me Osceola County! The reality: a huge F3 (to F4) strength tornado was approaching this Skywarn spotter from the southwest. Take cover? What cover? I was in a mobile home. A field outside was the best I had. After a couple of minutes I saw the Kissimmee tornado in silhouette against distant city lights. It was to the southwest of me. Problem was that I could not say it was not a rain shaft. I did not call it in on the 146.73 Mhz Orlando Skywarn repeater as they were busy following the Wet Orange tornado progress. You could get in into the net but I did not want to be a nut in Kissimmee reporting a rain column when they had a confirmed one up there.

After a minute however an ungodly howl made it clear that my dark column was not a rain shaft. You could hear snapping and breaking of trees. The tornado passed 1100 feet from me. A cover taking precluded making a Skywarn report at that point. The terror of being next to a large tornado in the night cannot be understated.

A dense breezy fog descended to the ground after the tornado passed. I could see only 200 feet in it. I guess I was one of the few people to see awful thing. It is was hard to believe. I got something of a delayed Skywarn report. A number of people were killed not far away. It was on the ground for 20 miles or so.

Why write of my experience? It is discouraging now to hear low participation on the S. Brevard Skywarn Net when it is activated for real. Skywarn was excellent information in 1998. It really worked. Ham radio was not just a hobby that night.

So things to know from my experience:

As they say, it is very difficult to spot a tornado at night. Sometimes power line arcing is a giveaway but in my rural area that did not occur. I saw no power lines flash until it was going away and crossing Narcossee Road.

- It is worst to spot a tornado to your southwest. Many tornados move from the southwest to the northeast so it may be coming.
- If you are right next to a big one cover taking has to take precedence.
- Participate in Skywarn

More reading:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1998\\_Kissimmee\\_tornado\\_outbreak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1998_Kissimmee_tornado_outbreak)

Butch WA4AQV

Skywarn Spotter

## **ARRL**

There have been some concerns arising at the ARRL.

<http://cqnewsroom.blogspot.com/2018/01/upd-ate-arrrl-revises-proposed-changes-to.html>

## **For sale:**

Hello everyone,

I have three heavy items that I don't want to wrestle with anymore. The prices are somewhat negotiable; I am looking for two signal generators that go to at least 100 MHz and can be locked to an external frequency standard.

1. Honda EX4500S generator. Fully enclosed; much quieter than open-frame generators

- I have fitted it with 10" pneumatic tires but also am including the original casters.
- Service manual included
- I will include 100 ft. of 3 #8 conductor rubber-jacketed cable with mating connectors
- Home-made assembly of 4 dual 120 volt outlets mounted on a board along with a circuit-breaker panel
- This is the generator and cable that have frequently been used at our HIARC Field Day outings.
- It is probably 15-20 years old but has only been used for Field Day and three power outages (total of 10 days for the outages) in the past 13 years.
- Professionally serviced (carburetor cleaning) three years ago
- Asking \$500
- You must pick up

2. HP Spectrum Analyzer set

- HP-141T (variable persistence) Display Unit
- 8553B 0-11/0-110 MHz RF section installed
- 8552B (10 Hz video filter) IF section installed
- 8554B 0-1200 MHz RF section (haven't used in 15 years)
- 8443A 100 KHz-110 MHz Tracking Generator with connecting cable
- 8444A 0.5-1200 MHz Tracking Generator (haven't used in 15 years)
- Understand that this is late 60's to early 70's equipment and WILL require periodic repair. All problems so far have been power supply related.
- Includes manuals that I have copied from the Boat-Anchor website
- Asking \$400

3. LG window air-conditioner

- 12,000 BTU

- 115 VAC @11 amps
- 15"H x 24"W x 22"D
- Purchased 12 years ago as a hurricane contingency; has been used at one Field Day!
- You must pick up
- Asking \$300

John W2TX

The following items are available for sale:

1. KENWOOD TS830S HF Transceiver

100 W, 160 – 10 meter internal AC supply asking \$500

2. KENWOOD TS 790 VHF/UHF Transceiver 45 W, 2m/70cm, AM/FM/SSB Access for 1296 Mhz module NOT available 12 VDC @ 15 amps supply required asking \$500

Both items in top operating condition with manuals for items 1 & 2

Contact Bob W3EUEH

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3. HEATHKIT HM-102 RF Power/SWR meter, 1.6-30 Mhz 200/2000 W tested OK, asking \$20

4. BIRD 8341-200 Coaxial Attenuator dc-1 GHz, 20 dB, 40W, Type N conn Tested OK, asking \$30

5. BALLANTINE 1066B Oscilloscope Dual Trace, DC-20 MHz, 2 generic probes, manual works fine, asking \$50

6. TRIGON HR20-10B Regulated power supply 0-20 Vdc, 10A Dual Meters (tested OK) asking \$30

For items 3 thru 6 contact

Bill WA4EMU

