**The HIARC Bulletin**

October 2023 Edition

**Newsletter of the Harris-Intersil Amateur Radio Club**

**Club Meetings:** Second Thursday of each month at Meemaw’s Barbecue on Babcock Street between Palm Bay Road and Port Malabar Road. Supper is at 5:30 PM, business is at 6:30 PM. Prizes at 7:45 PM. Our programs start around 7:00 PM. Meeting ends by 8:00 PM. As some members have allergies, we kindly ask that you refrain from wearing fragrances. Thanks.

**Repeaters:** K4HRS,145.47 Mc, tone 107.2 cycles. Down.

**Nets:**

Open to everyone:

* South Brevard Emergency Net: Thursdays at 7:00 PM. 146.61 Mc. In event of repeater failure 146.85 Mc and or 146.58 Mc simplex.
* Skywarn Net: Thursdays, after the SBEN net / 7:30 PM or so, 146.61 Mc
* Palm Bay Informal Net: 8 PM Thursdays on 147.255 Mc.
* Medical Complaint Nets: evenings 3.6 to 4.0 Mc.

**HIARC Web Site:** [www.qsl.net/hiarc](file:///C:\Users\Worm-W10PC\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\053Z5X9S\www.qsl.net\hiarc). Website administrator; Jim Tonti, KC7SSW

**Officers:** President: Francis Parsche (“Butch”), WA4AQV

Treasurer: Pat Reilly KA4ZEC

Secretary: Open

Repeater Chairman: Clyde KD8AN

Program Chairman: Open

Field Day Chairman: Open

Sunshine Chairman: Open

Club Jester: Ken N8KH

**Annual Membership:**

Annual dues are $12.00. You can join at the meeting or send a check to:

HIARC Treasurer

Pat Reilly, KA4ZEC

1985 Howell Lane

Malabar, FL 32950

We are on a calendar year dues system with annual dues due in June. Dues are prorated by a dollar a month. If you join in April dues are $2.00 to get to June.

Send me your email address to receive the newsletter: francis.parsche@l3harris.com

**Select Hamfests**

* Melbourne Hamfest. October 13 and 14, 2023. [Melbourne Hamfest 2023 – PCARS – W4MLB](https://pcars.org/wp/melbourne-hamfest-2023/)

**Ham Radio Lunches:**

* Every Friday, 11:00 AM till 1:00 PM or so, Golden Corral on Palm Bay Road in Palm Bay. Talk in on 146.61 Mc repeater.
* Every Friday, 11:00 AM till 1:00 PM or so. Crystal Buffet on W. New Haven (US192) across from the Melbourne Mall. Talk in on 146.61 Mc repeater.
* Once a month, the Saturday after the PCARS meeting, Sarno Restaurant and Pizzeria, 11:00 AM. Talk in 146.61 repeater. This restaurant is at the NW corner of Sarno Road and Croton Road.

**September 2023 HIARC Meeting And Program**

When: The next HIARC meeting is Thursday September 14, 2023.

Where: Meemaws Barbecue on Babcock Street.

Meeting Agenda:

5:30 Supper

6:30 Business Meeting

* Officer reports
  + President
  + Treasurer
  + Other offices vacant really
* Old business
  + Trade questions about the 145.47 Mc repeater
  + Wise cracks
  + Learn that the weather is too hot to visit WRMI
  + See if the scouts need anything for the merit badges
* New Business
  + Discuss Melbourne Hamfest this weekend
  + N8KH tell about the interference saga at his QTH, latest from FCC
  + Open

6:45 Jokes, ticket sales

6:50 Door prizes

7:00 Program: “Discussion And Live Demonstration Of Loop Antennas” By Ed Messer K4EEM.

7:50 Adjourn

**Presidents Message For October:**

Solar flux has been up! 169 last time I checked. 10 meters was open Sunday October 8. Heard an Ukraine station through a 29.40 MHz repeater in Canada. FM sounds good on HF.

**Fixing Older Receivers**

Many inexpensive tube receivers up until the early 1970’s or so were single conversion master oscillator types. So the local oscillator operated on frequencies as high as RF + 0.455 Mhz. So if listening to 28.400 MHz the local oscillator was operating at 28.85 MHz for high side mixer injection. Yes, for low side local oscillator injection into the mixer the local oscillator could be 455 kc lower than the listening frequency but this it still plenty high. All this led to instability, frequency drift and limited image rejection. Tunable IF with crystal controlled block frequency converter was a better way to go as the free running local oscillator was on a much lower frequency.

The fix for the older receivers was just that: a crystal controlled block frequency converter. Use your master oscillator to tune around on the more stable and better bandspread 80 meter band while actually receiving a 500 kc block of 10 meters. The approach was about 10 times more stable. Lafayette Radio came out with such a converter unit the HE-73:



**Lafayette HE-73 Block Frequency Converter**

Heathkit may have had one. I do remember ARRL projects to build them

Converter units are still around but we mostly have forgotten about them. A little bit of amateur radio how we used to do it.

73

Butch WA4AQV

**SB QST @ ARL $ARLB026  
ARLB026 ARRL Urges Comments to FCC on 60-Meter Band**  
  
ZCZC AG26  
QST de W1AW    
ARRL Bulletin 26  ARLB026  
From ARRL Headquarters    
Newington CT  October 11, 2023  
To all radio amateurs   
  
SB QST ARL ARLB026  
ARLB026 ARRL Urges Comments to FCC on 60-Meter Band  
  
The ARRL is asking that all radio amateurs urge the Federal  
Communications Commission (FCC) to continue the existing use of the  
60-meter band. A public comment period is open until October 30,  
2023. ARRL encourages expressions of support to the FCC for the  
current 100 W ERP power limit (instead of reducing the power limit  
to 15 W EIRP) and continuing secondary access to the current  
channels.  
  
To submit a filing of your comments for the FCC's consideration in  
the rulemaking process, go to the FCC web page for the Notice of  
Proposed Rulemaking's (NPRM) Docket Number 23-120 at,  
<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/docket-detail/23-120>.  
  
If you wish to directly enter your comments, select the button  
labeled SUBMIT AN EXPRESS FILING at,  
<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/express?proceeding5d=23-120> .  
  
If you are uploading a document that contains your comments, select  
SUBMIT A STANDARD FILING at,  
<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/standard?proceeding5d=23-120> .  
  
When submitting your comments, be sure the correct proceeding's  
docket number, 23-120, is included on the form. Your name and  
comments will be entered into the official public record of the  
proceedings and will be viewable by anyone who visits the docket web  
page.  
  
While radio amateurs are encouraged to include any comments they  
would like in their submissions, they're especially encouraged to  
draw upon their personal experiences using the 60-meter band for  
public service purposes and for its location between the amateur 80-  
and 40-meter bands, which is critical to ensuring signal propagation  
to certain geographic areas during variations in time and the solar  
cycle.  
  
Some of the main points to comment on for this NPRM are:  
  
\* Urging the FCC to keep the four existing channels allocated to  
amateur radio on a secondary basis.  
  
\* Urging the FCC to keep the 100 W power limit for the four existing  
channels and the new 15 kHz subband.  
  
ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX,  
underscored the importance of commenting, urging members to speak  
up. "ARRL members make up the strongest voice in matters of amateur  
radio spectrum defense," said Harrop. "Your membership and  
participation in the rulemaking process both ensure ARRL continues  
to make the difference when our band privileges are threatened.  
Please join us in effort to protect our 60-meter band privileges."  
NNNN  
/EX