

The HIARC Bulletin

November 2019 Edition

The Official Bulletin 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 6:00 PM, business is at 7:00 PM. Our programs start about 7:30 PM. As some members have allergies, we kindly ask that you refrain from wearing fragrances thanks.

Club Station: Building 15, Room 321. E-mail Butch for access.

Repeaters: K4HRS, 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: Open

Repeater Chairmen: Bud W4HXP

Program Chairman: Open

Field Day Chairman: Bill WA4EMU

Sunshine Chairman: Open

Club Jester: Ken N8KH

Membership:

All welcome to join.

Dues are \$12.00 per year to:

Bill WA4EMU

Annual Events: Annual swapfest at the October meeting. Field Day (always the fourth full weekend in June)

Selected Hamfests:

- November 13, 2019 at 9 AM. Melbourne area, PCARS free swapfest. Exact location, W4MLB shack site / fire training center Electronics Drive and Hughes Road. Talk in probably 146.61 Mc repeater, no PL tone needed: map <https://www.google.com/maps/@28.1392468,-80.6690535,68m/data=!3m1!1e3>

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

July President's Message

The 2019 Melbourne Hamfest was a success again this year with mostly good weather. Just over 1000 tickets were sold. One commercial vendor reported that he did 5X the business at Melbourne this year than he did at Orlando last year. The Melbourne Hamfest was first held in the early 1960's.

This weekend Saturday 11-13-19 there will be free swapfest at the W4MLB shack at the fire training center at Electronics Drive and Hughes Road in the Melbourne area at 9 AM.

We have been discussing vertical antenna ground radial requirements the last few meetings. Attach are two useful papers: the original 1930's measurements of ground radial efficiencies and a later 1980's QST article.

The November meeting will be this Thursday November 14 at Meemaws Barbecue. The program will be slides on the 1969 Apollo mission lunar surface communications, with measured signal strengths as they drove around at 300 MHz. Also descriptions of the moon backpack antennas. Presenter will be Butch, WA4AQV.

73's

Butch WA4AQV

Measurements Of The GAP Titan Antenna

Radiation pattern measurements of HF antennas can involve aircraft flights transmitting a source signal while flying over the HF antenna site. An alternative method is to receive and average ionospheric signals over a period of time to remove the variations of propagation. Here is an example of this applied to the GAP antenna link: <https://www.qsl.net/aa3rl/titan.html>

Everyone Enjoys Morse Code

Last month we reported what happened when I ran 600 watts in an apartment. My neighbor enjoyed the transmissions and attempted a QSO by beating on the walls! Now other amateurs have reported their neighbors liking the transmissions:

My apartment in college was in a large building about 250' long. Fortunately I was in one that was about in the middle of the building on the top (third) floor.

There was a common service attic that ran through the length of the building with the attic access outside. With the help of friends, I was able to go into the attic and run a full length 120' dipole for 75m that I stapled to the overhead rafters with one of my Dad's big staple guns.

I had lookouts for the on-site property manager to make sure I didn't get caught doing it, plus walking softly over the neighbor's apartments. Being a skinny college kid helped.

Using a screwdriver I punched a hole in the corner of the closet ceiling and fished the RG-58 coax through into the attic and down into my apartment.

It loaded up great and I made lots of contacts on 75m and 40m. A true stealth antenna.

This was also about the time when 49MHz phones were all the rage. Every college kid wanted a cordless phone for their dorm and apartment.

I worked a lot of phones too. But they couldn't talk back very well unless they yelled.

73,

Walter K4HV

MARS Exercise

Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS) COMEX 19-4

By way of introduction, my name is Joe Bassett, operations officer (S3) for the Florida Army Military Auxiliary Radio System. My amateur call is W1WCN. My AMARS personal call sign is AAR4WZ and billet call is AAA4FL3. This email is a courtesy announcement to all Florida amateur radio emergency and disaster operators regarding an upcoming national MARS exercise. MARS leadership encourages you, in your leadership role, to freely and liberally disseminate the following throughout your sphere of influence (ARES, RACES, radio clubs, etc.)

The exercise will take place during November and emphasize "...a high level of coordination with amateur radio...and facilitate amateur radio stations reception of a digital 60 meter DoD broadcast." Messages of interest to the amateur radio community will be broadcast from WWV. In particular, amateur radio participation will take place 16-17 NOV 2019. This participation will include reception of HF messages, interactivity with MARS stations on 60 meters, HF nets and local VHF/UHF nets. MARS stations will identify themselves with MARS call signs on 60 meters. All contacts on other amateur frequencies will be using their amateur call signs.

The primary exchanges between MARS and amateur stations will be County Status Reports. MARS stations may contact amateur stations and request information concerning local infrastructure. Amateur stations are encouraged to participate. A sample of the information is included below. Responses from amateur radio stations should reflect actual conditions. NO SIMULATED, EXAGGERATED, OR SIMULATED INFORMATION SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED.

Broadcasts transmitted on 60 meters and from WWV will utilize digital mode M110A. These broadcasts will be of interest to amateur radio operators interested in participating in the exercise. Software (MS-

DMT) is available to the amateur radio community for decoding of M110A. MS-DMT is available for download with installation information at http://www.n2ckh.com/MARS_ALE_FORUM/MSDMT.html.

ALL MESSAGES WILL BE TRANSMITTED VIA PLAINTEXT. NO MESSAGES WILL BE ENCRYPTED.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions that you have, but please be patient. Further information will be forthcoming.

Grace and 73,

Joe – W1WCN
AAR4WZ/AAA4FL3

bcc: Florida AMARS members