**The HIARC Bulletin**

February 2021 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 5:30 PM, business is at 6:30 PM. Prizes at 7:00 PM. Our programs start at 7:15 PM. Meeting ends by 8:00 PM. As some members have allergies, we kindly ask that you refrain from wearing fragrances thanks. As some members have risk factors for coronavirus we ask that everyone to wear a mask when not eating.

**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>.

**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:**

* February 13, 2021: Vero Beach at the Indian River County Fair Grounds. This a brand new hamfest and easy close by 30 minute drive. It is in a country area Details [www.TreasureCoastHamfest.com](http://www.TreasureCoastHamfest.com).

Directions: <https://www.mapquest.com/directions/from/us/fl/palm-bay/to/us/florida/indian-river-county-fairgrounds-expo-center-353511122>

* February 2021, Orlando Hamcation: cancelled this year due to the virus <https://www.hamcation.com/>
* Stuart, 2010: Seems cancelled cannot find it listed anywhere. Let me know if you see it.

**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
* Once a month, the Saturday after the PCARS meeting, Sarno Restaurant And Pizzaria, 11:00 AM. This is at the corner of Sarno Road and Croton Road.

**Presidents Message**

The Vero Beach Hamfest is this weekend [www.TreasureCoastHamfest.com](http://www.TreasureCoastHamfest.com) and it’s a 30 minute drive from much of Palm Bay. I hear many will be attending.

HIARC ordered more than $75.00 in food at the January meeting meeting the Memaws minimum. Thanks to those that turned out and continue to do so.

Winter Field Day is getting more popular. May be the thing to do next year.

PCARS has several license classes going or getting started [www.pcars.org](http://www.pcars.org).

73’s

Butch WA4AQV

**Thursday February 11 HIARC Meeting**

Our next HIARC meeting is this Thursday February 11 in the Babcock Street Meemaws Barbecue Banquet Room: 5:30 PM for dinner, 6:30 PM for business and 7:15 PM for the program.

The program will be *“An overview of setting up your own webSDR with OpenWebRX”* by Vlad KX4TH. Vlad will outline of how OpenWebRX works, the hardware configurations, and basic software configuration. Vlad is bringing a raspberry pi and an SDR to run it. Bring a large flash drive/external storage and you can have a free copy of a ready-made raspberry pi image (and hopefully a virtualbox image) that you can run on your own windows.

Vlad has an online receiver and is a knowledgeable engineer on the subject, should be a good talk.

**Early Mobile Telephones**

In the 1950’s there the was Mobile Telephone Service (MTS) near 40 Mc. Later there was direct dial IMTS or “Improved Mobile Telephone Service” near 152 and 158 Mhz. The Orlando system was downtown and ran really high power. Given the 10.7 MHz IF frequency of many amateur 2 meter radios images and intermodulation interference was common problem to us hams. There were long waiting periods to get a mobile phone in urban areas as they system was quickly out of capacity. We hams did pretty good with autopatches. Here is a video of the early mobile phone systems:

[1940s BELL TELEPHONE "MOBILE TELEPHONES" MOVIE EARLY CELL PHONE / MOBILE TELEPHONE SYSTEM 90884 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=xDy2tHCPdk8&feature=youtu.be) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=xDy2tHCPdk8&feature=youtu.be>

**Six Meter Repeaters Locally**

We don’t have any 6 meter repeaters in South Brevard County. There is one in Vero Beach: W4VRB 53.330 MHz out 52.330 MHz in tone 100 Hz. It is next to the big dump along I-95 in Indian River County https://www.google.com/maps/@27.5796672,-80.4960744,3a,75y,111.21h,99.07t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sflAqCrDoGPJKNjxVabce-Q!2e0!7i16384!8i8192 .

If I understand it has the transmit antenna at 450 feet and the receive antenna at 150 feet to avoid the need for a duplexer. Such repeaters are known as gators all mouth and no ears by some but we are glad to have it. It is hard to hit Melbourne unless you go out on the barrier island or the causeway to get a saltwater path, then it is easy to reach by ground wave. Six meters propagates better than two meters with less loss getting around buildings. Interference levels can be 9 dB higher although that varies. Six meters is a broad band percentage wise.