**The HIARC Bulletin**

January 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>. 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:**

* January 16, 2021 Orlando Winter Tailgate. [http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/k4kdi-winter-tailgate-2021](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/k4kdi-winter-tailgate-2021")
* February 2021, Orlando Hamcation: cancelled this year due to the virus <https://www.hamcation.com/>
* Stuart, 2010: Seems cancelled cannot find it listed anywhere.

**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**

As the Orlando Hamfest was cancelled the little Orlando winter Tailgate may be a bigger event this year. It is this weekend. Several folks I know are going. Details <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/k4kdi-winter-tailgate-2021>. Repeaters are quieter these days but really quiet in Orlando. Maybe it’s a big city thing over there. Used to be humming in Orlando when I was a kid.

Isn’t the winter ionosphere wonderful? Lower D layer absorption in daytime, single F layer without all the distortion multipath of separate F1 F2 layers. More nighttime hours. Lower lightning noise. Everything except the sporadic E of summer. This is a good time to enjoy 160 and 80 meters, especially before the sunspot cycle climbs.

Butch WA4AQV

**Thursday January 14 HIARC Meeting**

Our next HIARC meeting is this Thursday January 11 at Meemaws Barbecue in the Banquet Room at 5:30 PM for dinner, 6:30 PM for business and 7:15 PM for the program. The program will be a show and tell of VSWR testers. Bring one to show and tell everyone: what you use it for, what you like and dislike. I will bring an Autek RF-1.

**Where to Meet**

HIARC is democratic so there will be discussion of meeting places at the January meeting if anyone wants. If desired the club can vote on meeting places certainly. If you want to suggest somewhere please kindly come with specifics:

* Is there a banquet room?
* Is there a fee to use the banquet room?
* What is the minimum purchase?
* Allowable party sizes, min and max?
* Is it quiet? Is it private?
* Is there a screen?
* Is there internet access?
* Do they bump for tour buses and larger parties? This has been a real problem except for Meemaws.

I recommend we stay put at Meemaws and hug the staff for being so good to us.

**The Antenna Products 6012 Log Periodic Antenna At L3Harris**

L3Harris has a Hygain - Now US Antenna Products model 6012 HF Log Periodic Dipole Antenna (LPDA) on campus. It makes an amateur radio contact from time to time. Here is a picture of it from the end of the boom:



It just got fixed. Took a bucket truck to get up there. The balun was bad, lightning perhaps. The balun is the black box. Log periodic antennas have two boom tubes and they function as a giant open wire transmission line. The elements are connected to the boom tube transmission line and the balun feeds the booms. The 6012 is a dense packed LPDA so there are 2 opposed elements at the same boom station. This is made possible by an alternating, zig zag fashion connection using jumper wires. The 6012 is a lot of stiff 7075 aluminum and costs about $40K these days. It is operable from 6.2 to 30 Mc. Gain is about 7 dBi. Log periodics can go a little higher on gain but at HF size makes more gain difficult. Note that on a log periodic some of the elements are never used in the amateur bands. The 6012 LPDA is rated to 80 MPH winds so storm damage can be a problem. Fortunately, a little tornado missed it at one time. The site is fairly quiet for electrical noise. See me if you want to use it.

Butch WA4AQV

