**The HIARC Bulletin**

March 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 masks are worn 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 Dahmke 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:**

* Stuart, 2021: A 1 hour drive free hamfest in March or so. Seems cancelled this year as I 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**

Many apologies, I missed the February meeting! I will be at March meeting this week looking forward.

The Vero Beach Hamfest was a fun get together last month. It is pretty site hope they have it next year.

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

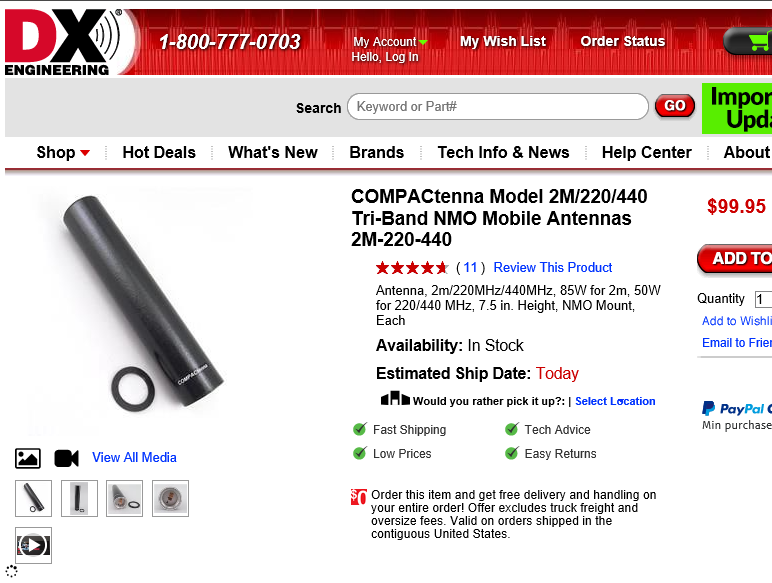
73’s

Butch WA4AQV

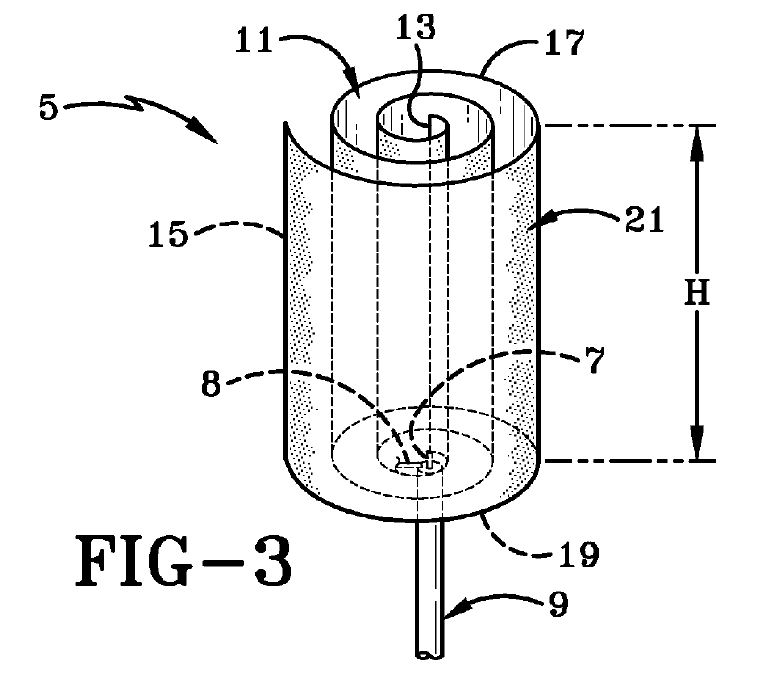
**Thursday March 11 HIARC Meeting**

Our next HIARC meeting is this Thursday March 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 on the 2 meter / 70 centimeter Compactenna by Compactenna. Here is a peek at the antenna:



**Compactenna**



**Compactenna Internal Element**

**How Far Should That Repeater Reach**

The vertical polarization common to repeater work bends poorly over the horizon to relative horizontal polarization. But horizontal polarization antennas are unwieldly on cars and within the earth horizon horizontal polarization reflects more than vertical off the soil resulting in deeper mobile fading. So horizontal polarization is seldom used except for DX modes such as SSB and CW above 50 MHz.

The 146.85 repeater on the Harris Turkey Creek tower at 350 feet has a physical optics horizon of 21 miles and a 4/3 earth horizon of 27 miles. These are simple predictions of range. Of course other factors apply.

**SteppIR RF Power Limitations**

The BigIR antenna has in the experience N8KH not handled the full amateur power on 80 meters resulting in some arcing problems for him. So, you may want to reduce power on that band. Here is the story: <https://QSL.net/hiarc/SteppIR/SteppIR_Arcing_Failure.html>