**The HIARC Bulletin**

November 2021 Edition

**The Official 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 7:00 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.

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

**Repeaters:** K4HRS,145.47 Mc, tone 107.2 cycles, elevation 170 feet, Melbourne. Works good, repeater has sensitive receiver.

**Nets:**

The nets change often. At one point they were:

* HIARC Emergency Net: Sundays 4:00 till 4:30 PM 145.47 MHz repeater
* South Brevard Emergency Net: Thursdays at 7:00 PM. 146.61 or 146.85 MHz repeaters

**HIARC Web Site:** <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. Join at the meeting or send a check to:

HIARC Treasurer

Pat , KA4ZEC

We are on a calendar year dues system with annual dues due in June. Dues are prorated by a dollar a month so if you join in April they are $2.00 to get to June, or you can pay ahead thanks.

**Selected Hamfests:**

* October 20, PCARS Swapmeet. Melbourne Fire Training Center, 1980 Hughes Road, Melbourne FL 32935. 9:00 AM till about 10:30 AM. Talk in 146.61 repeater no tone.

**Ham Radio Lunches:**

* Every Friday, 11:00 AM till 1:00 PM or so, Golden Corral on Palm Bay Road in Palm Bay. Around 12 people recently and growing.
* Once a month, the Saturday after the PCARS meeting, Sarno Restaurant and Pizzaria, 11:00 AM. Talk in 146.61 repeater. This is at the corner of Sarno Road and Croton Road.

**Sepetmber 9 HIARC Meeting Agenda:**

Our next HIARC meeting is this Thursday November 11 in the Babcock Street Meemaws Barbecue Banquet Room.

Agenda:

* Supper at 5:30 PM
* Business meeting at 6:30 PM
* Prize drawing at 6:50 PM
* Program at 7:10 PM:
* Vacate room at 7:50 PM

**Titanic Radio Operations**

Why Was Titanic's Wireless Operator so Rude to the Californian?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvLWcP_bD4w>

**Florida East Coast Community College Antique Electronics Display**



Courtesy Bruce Hesser

**A Simple Manually Tuned Inverted V Antenna**

Report on an 80m “digitally tuned” antenna.  It is digitally tuned with a set of wires having length relationships based on the base-2 number system.  Hence: “digital tuning”.

I have an 80m inverted-V with the apex at about 40’.  The ends of the antenna are about 6’ above ground on my wooden fence.  I recently reworked the antenna, replacing the Chinesium alligator clips with some Chinesium banana plugs.  The antenna is fed with a W2AU balun in the center at 40’.

Below, see some ASCII art showing the configuration of the antenna.  This will look best in a constant width font.

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The o’s at the top represent the balun connection.  The o’s at the bottom represent the tuning wire extension points.  The length of the inverted-V without any wire extensions makes it resonate at about 4000 kHz.

I have made two sets of three lengths of wire with banana plugs at each end:



The lengths are 1’, 2’, and 4’.  There is a set for each end of the inverted-V.  This allows extending the length of the inverted-V on each end by any length between 0’ and 7’, with an adjustment length of 1’.  The following chart shows where the antenna resonates with various extension lengths.  In each case, the 2:1 VSWR bandwidth is about 200 kHz.  My automatic antenna tuner can easily handle a 3:1 VSWR, so the usable bandwidth is a bit wider than 200 kHz without changing the extension lengths.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Extension** **Length** **(feet)**  **on** **each** **end** | **Center** **Frequency** **(kHz)** |
| 0 | 4000 |
| 1 | 3950 |
| 2 | 3865 |
| 3 | 3741 |
| 4 | 3667 |
| 5 | 3575 |
| 6 | 3510 |
| 7 | not measured |

To “tune” the antenna, you run out and change the length of the extensions on both ends.  You get wet in the rain, but there isn’t much snow and ice to be bothersome here in Florida.

The Chinesium alligator clips rusted badly after about a year, and would no longer bite like an alligator clip should.  They clearly did not have much copper or brass content.  They were replaced with Chinesium banana plugs that appear to have significant brass content.  Time will tell how they work out.

73,

Ken N8KH

PS  The antenna performed incredibly well in the ARRL CW Sweepstakes contest in November 2021, with 189 QSOs — more than on any other band — and helping me to earn a “clean sweep” by contacting *every* US and Canadian section during the contest.