



The Listening Post



Dedicated to Community Service and All Central Florida Hams

December 2019

President's Message

Greetings!! As I write this article this month, we are all trying to stay awake from eating too much Turkey! Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! There is truth in the saying "Gobble till you Wobble"!

This coming Wednesday Night will be our December Meeting. So, if you haven't read the newsletter in a while, yes, this year we will have a December meeting. We will NOT have a January meeting since
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OARC MEETING

December 4, 2019 7:30pm

Beardall Senior Center
800 Delaney Ave, Orlando, FL 32801
ARRL Testing: 5:30pm

For information & Updates
See www.oarc.org

OARC Board of Directors

President: John Knott, N4JTK
Vice President: Michael Cauley, W4MCA
Treasurer: Ana Groe, KM4JVE
Secretary: Bob Nocero, W4KBW
Directors:
Bob Cumming, W2BZY
Frank Gergits, KC9GNQ
Tony Darnell, KK4VRP
Dean Groe, KD4TWJ
Frank Tagliani, KD4EZW
James Deuel, N0XIA

The Listening Post is the OARC newsletter for OARC members. The LP will be distributed electronically via E-mail and the OARC web site (www.oarc.org).

Editor: Ed Thralls NE4H.

Comments, suggestions and articles are welcome. Send to editors@oarc.org.

Contributing to this edition: John Knott N4JTK, Michael Cauley W4MCA, James Deuel N0XIA, and Ed Thralls NE4H

OARC REPEATERS

Call	Freq	Shift	PL
KB4UT	146.760*	-600	103.5
N4UMB	147.015	-600	103.5

* Fusion Repeater

D-Star

K1XC C	146.820	-600	
K1XC B	443.275	+5MHz	
K1XC A	1275.00	-12 MHz	Voice
K1XC A	1255.00	-12MHz	Digital
W4PLB C	145.160	+600	
W4PLB B	442.300	+5MHz	

All D-star repeaters are connected

President's Message (Continued from Previous Page)

our meeting night would fall on January 1 and Beardall is closed. We look forward to seeing everyone Wednesday Night! Our presentation this coming month will be on "Mesh Networking" with Dean Groe, KD4TWJ. Dean is also one of our Directors.

I'm sure that you have heard about the ARRL Southeastern Election results by now. I'm happy to announce that Director-elect Mickey Baker, N4MB and Vice Director-elect James Schilling, KG4JSZ with his better half will be joining our Christmas Party. Please give them a warm welcome.

Speaking of Christmas Parties, just a week away at the time of this writing! Can't wait to see everyone there. Please remember that doors open at 6pm. We want you to come and have a good time. Be with friends and make memories. We have great Ham related and Non-Ham related prizes! Ana has out done herself again with center pieces, desserts, great food, and creating a fun evening for everyone!

I must take a moment and congratulate Michael and his team of dedicated Chairman and Chairwomen for working hard at making HamCationSM 2020 another huge event! I will let Michael fill you in on details as he is able to release them, but things are coming together for another fantastic show and it's hard to believe that we are only two months out.

We're still looking for someone to assist Ed Thralls with the monthly newsletter. Experience and access to Microsoft Word is extremely helpful. If you or someone you know is interested, please send me an email. The job doesn't pay well, but the pride for putting out a great monthly newsletter is worth the weight in gold! 😊

I'm also interested in finding someone to take on a new (or rejuvenated) role of Club Historian. This club has a lot of history. From the many Board Members who have held offices, to meeting locations, to the many repeaters this club has had and still has. Much of the past documented history has been lost over the years. From document age and deterioration, from simply being lost and not past forward, to who knows what. I'm thinking one of our longtime members out there who doesn't make it to a meeting anymore but has a wealth of knowledge of the club might be interested in helping us out. Simply documenting what you remember or have documentation on can be preserved electronically. Please send me an email and let me know if you can help us out.

And finally, with the holidays fast approaching and not having a meeting in January, the Listening Post is going to take a short one-month break. The next LP will come out towards the end of January. This will give Ed a well-deserved break and time to spend with his family instead of worrying about the next issue getting done during

Christmas. I think we all can at least agree with this. After all; Volunteers Make the Difference!!!

73.

John Knott, N4JTK

Christmas Party

(By John Knott, N4JTK)

This year's OARC Christmas Party will be NEXT Saturday, December 7, 2019. The location remains the same, Knights of Columbus 5727 Cornelia Way, Orlando FL 32807. The doors open at 6pm. Dinner is served at 7pm.

We will be collecting Toys 4 Tots again this year, so please bring a small unwrapped toy. Ana has lined up some awesome Non-ham prizes again this year. As announced at the October General Meeting, we'll be giving away a Yaesu FT-3DR HT. We'll also be giving away a Yaesu FT 991A HF Radio!!

Time has run out for you to get your tickets. If you did not attend the General Meeting, November 6, 2019 but requested your ticket by mail, your tickets will be given to you at the door on December 7. There will be **NO ticket sales at the door.**



HamCationSM Chairman News

Greetings Everyone

As you read this, we are in full HamCationSM mode. Our Next hamfest is at the Tampa Bay Hamfest, December 13th and 14th to promote the show on the west coast of Florida.

ORLANDO
HamCationSM 2020



VOLUNTEERS
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Did everyone see the Press Release from ARRL about the ARRL Events App? If not you can check it out here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-events-app-will-support-orlando-hamcation-attendees>.

The Awards committee is about to select the Winner of the Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award. Listen to it live on the "Ham Radio Roundtable" show on W5KUB.com at 9pm ET.

Also, this year look for more golf carts carrying our visitors to and from the parking areas, Testing and Forums. Julie Darnell is looking for Volunteers to help with this. We need 30 to 50 more volunteers this year to pull this event off.

Here is a list of the areas we need help in yet Forums, Hospitality, Information/Prize Booth, Logistics, Tickets, RV, Special Event Station, Tailgate, Talk-in, Testing, and Transportation. Please if you have not signed up to volunteer yet please do so by going to <https://www.hamcation.com/hamcation-volunteer>. Volunteer 4 hours and get a free ticket, Shirt and Lapel Pin and if you work all day free lunch on us in the volunteer lounge. Don't forget to log your hours so you can help other organizations get a donation from HamCationSM.

73
Michael Cauley, W4MCA
HamCation General Chairman

Radio Scouting, Inc.*
HAM events at Camp La-No-Che
41940 Boy Scout Rd, Paisley, FL 32767
(by Ken Lyons KN4MDJ)

Dec 7th, 2019 Jubilee '19, a Mini Field day, fox hunting, DX contacts, demos for all ages. LOCATION: Osceola Heritage Park, 1875 Silver Spur Ln, Kissimmee, FL 34744
<https://scoutingevent.com/083-Jubilee>

*Radio Scouting, Inc. is a IRS 501(c)3 non-profit charity to promote radio knowledge and youth activities for scouting and the community.

YOTA Month Continues to Expand into the Americas

Youth-operated stations around the world will be part of a special event celebrating youth in amateur radio during the month of December.

BLOOMINGTON, Indiana, November 27, 2019— Amateur radio operators age 25 and younger will be on the air as special event stations around the world throughout December in celebration of youth in amateur radio. YOTA Month stations will be on all bands and modes at various times. QSL and award information is at <http://events.ham-yota.com>.



In the United States, the callsigns will be K8Y, K8O, K8T, and K8A. Elsewhere in the Americas, Canada will be VE7YOTA, and other countries are expected to be added soon. Amateur radio operators should be encouraged to listen for and contact these stations as well as all callsigns ending in the letters "YOTA" across the globe.

More information about YOTA Month in the Americas can be found at <http://YouthOnTheAir.org>. The Youth on the Air website is sponsored by ICOM America. More information about YOTA Month globally can be found at <http://events.ham-yota.com>.

To schedule interviews or obtain additional information about YOTA in the Americas, please contact YOTA Month in the Americas coordinator Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO or YOTA in the Americas Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG at yotamonth@youthontheair.org or at (812) 327-0749.

Youth on the Air Camp Coming to the Americas

(The ARR Letter for November 21, 2019)



Youth on the Air

Activities for the Next Generation of
Amateur Radio Operators in the Americas

The Electronic Applications Radio Service ([EARS](#)) has announced that the first Youth On The Air (YOTA) camp in the US is set to take place in June. Sponsors hope the camp will become an annual event.

The inaugural summer camp will take place June 21 - 26 at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township, Ohio. The

West Chester Amateur Radio Association ([WC8VOA](#)) will host the event. EARS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to wireless technologies and activities.

According to the announcement, the camp will focus on building peer and mentor relationships and taking amateur radio "to the next level." Campers will learn and exercise on-the-air skills at special event station W8Y.

New Antenna Concept Uses Saltwater and Plastic Instead of Metal Conductor

(The ARRL Letter for October 24, 2019)

A new antenna that uses saltwater and plastic instead of metal could make it easier to build VHF and UHF networks, an *IEEE Spectrum* [article](#) asserts.

Michelle Hamson says, "Being able to focus the energy of a radio signal toward a given receiver means you can increase the range and efficiency of transmissions," in her article, "New Antenna Uses Saltwater and Plastic to Steer Radio Beams." According to the article, beam-steering or [beamforming](#) on a large scale is one of the key underlying mechanisms behind the rollout of 5G networks. The configuration of the saltwater antenna allows 360° beam-steering and works for frequencies between 334 and 488 MHz.

In a recent publication in *IEEE Antennas and Wireless Propagation Letters*, Lei Xing and her colleagues at the College of Electronic and Information Engineering at Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in China have proposed a new saltwater-based antenna that achieves 12 directional beam-steering states, and one omnidirectional state.



"The proposed design consists of a circular ground plane, with 13 transparent acrylic tubes that can be filled with (or emptied of) salt water on demand. One tube is located in the center to act as a driven monopole. Surrounding it are 12 parasitic monopoles," the article explains. "The 12 remaining monopoles, when filled with water, work together to act as reflectors and give the broadcasted signal direction."

"The attractive feature of using water monopoles is that both the water height and activating status can be dynamically tuned through microfluidic techniques, which has a higher degree of design flexibility than metal antennas," explains Xing.

One limitation of salt water-based antennas, she notes, is that that the [permittivity](#) of salt water -- i.e, how it interacts with electrical fields -- is sensitive to temperature variations.

FCC Turns Down Petition to Amend Amateur Radio Identification Rules

(The ARRL Letter for October 24, 2019)

The FCC has denied a Petition for Rule Making (PRM) to amend Part 97 station identification rules to better accommodate and simplify station identification during emergency nets, drills, or activations. ARRL member Robert A. Dukish, KK8DX, of Canfield, Ohio, had sought a change to Section 97.119(a) of the rules to allow a single point of transmission for station ID on those occasions.

He proposed permitting a net control station or other designated



participant to announce the call signs of every station taking part in the net or exercise, when tactical call signs often are in use, at 10-minute intervals, using automatic CW identification.

In turning down Dukish's petition, Scot Stone, the Deputy Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Mobility Division, said commenters overwhelmingly opposed the proposal.

"They argue that the current rule strikes the appropriate balance between the need to identify the source of transmissions and ease of communication," Stone wrote. "Commenters state that, in their years of experience with amateur emergency communications, the station identification requirement has not proven to be a burden or obstacle, and that the current procedure actually contributes to efficient operations

by providing a clear indication that a communication has ended and the channel is available."

Stone said some commenters asserted that Dukish's proposed procedure would be unworkable and cause confusion, while others characterized his proposal as a solution in search of a problem.

"The purpose of the station identification requirement is to make the source of transmissions clearly known to those receiving those transmissions," Stone wrote. "Separating the call sign from each transmission would defeat this purpose." Moreover, he said there's no evidence that the current station ID requirements have hindered amateur radio emergency communications.

W1AW to Commemorate 98th Anniversary of First Amateur Radio Signals to Span the Atlantic

(The ARRL Letter for November 7, 2019)

December 11 marks the 98th anniversary of the success of ARRL's [Transatlantic Tests](#) in 1921, organized to see if low-power amateur radio stations could be heard across the Atlantic using shortwave frequencies (i.e., above 200 meters). On that day, a message transmitted by a group of Radio Club of America members at 1BCG in Greenwich, Connecticut, was copied by Paul Godley, 2ZE, in Scotland.



While the first two-way contact would not take place until 1923, the 1921 transatlantic success marked the beginning of what would become routine communication between US radio amateurs and those in other parts of the world -- the birth of DX.

To commemorate this amateur radio milestone, Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on the air through the day on December 11 with volunteer operators. The goal is to encourage contacts between radio amateurs in the US and Europe while showcasing the significance of the transmissions that pioneered global communication and laid the groundwork for technology widely used today.

The event will run from 1300 until 0000 UTC. Some details are still being worked out, but operation will focus on 40 and 20 meters (SSB).

SKYWARN Recognition Day Celebrates 20 Years on December 7

(The ARRL Letter for November 7, 2019)

SKYWARN Recognition Day ([SRD](#)) will mark its 20th anniversary on December 7, 0000 to 2400 UTC. This is the day each year when radio amateurs operate from National Weather Service (NWS) forecast offices across the country, celebrating the long relationship between the amateur radio community and the National Weather Service SKYWARN program. The purpose of the event is to recognize amateur radio operators for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local NWS offices.

Developed in 1999, SRD is cosponsored by ARRL and the NWS. Traditionally, radio amateurs have assisted the mission of the NWS through providing near real-time reports of severe weather and storm development. Reports received from radio amateurs have proven invaluable to NWS forecasters.



During SRD, participants exchange contact information with as many NWS stations as possible on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters, plus 70 centimeters. Contacts via repeaters are permitted. Stations should exchange call signs, signal reports, and locations, plus a quick description of the weather at your location (e.g., sunny, partly cloudy, windy, rainy, etc.). EchoLink and IRLP nodes, including the Voice over Internet Protocol Weather Net ([VoIP-WX](#)), are expected to be active as well.

[WX4NHC](#) at the National Hurricane Center will also be on the air for SRD, 1300 - 1700 UTC, for its 21st year of SRD participation.

ARRL Legislative Advocacy Committee Drafting New Bill Addressing Antenna Restrictions

(The ARR Letter for November 21, 2019)

The ARRL Board of Directors Legislative Advocacy Committee is in the process of drafting a new bill to address the issue of private land-use restrictions on amateur radio antennas. The proposed legislation would be the successor to the Amateur Radio

Parity Act. The Legislative Advocacy Committee, chaired by Pacific Division Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, will report to the Board soon, once plans are fleshed out. Tiemstra told the ARRL Executive Committee (EC) on October 12 in Aurora, Colorado, that Advocacy Committee members have traveled to Washington to meet on multiple occasions with members of Congress and their staffs to inform them of the committee's plans.



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ARRL Washington Counsel Dave Siddall, K3ZJ, told the EC last month that he understands the conditional exemption of amateur radio licensees from the RF exposure measurement

requirements in the FCC's Part 97 Amateur Service rules is proposed to be removed. A *Report and Order* in FCC Docket WT 13-84 is making the rounds that, if adopted, would make amateur licensees subject to the same requirements as all other FCC licensees. The *Report and Order* is expected to be released before year's end.

Siddall also reported to the EC that the FCC is poised to address the 60-meter band amateur allocation adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15). The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), on behalf of US government primary users of the band, has insisted that the maximum permitted power for radio amateurs must not exceed that agreed to at WRC-15 -- 15 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP) or 9.1 W ERP -- despite the fact that Canada has authorized its amateur licensees to use 100 W, and eliminate the current discrete channels, which ARRL's petition proposed to retain. NTIA oversees federal government frequency allocations and users.

ARRL Self-Guided Emergency Communication Course EC-001-S is Now Available On Demand

(The ARR Letter for November 21, 2019)

ARRL's EC-001-S online "Introduction to Emergency Communication" course is now available to students in an on-demand format, allowing students to register for the course and begin work at any time. This course is designed to provide basic knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer. In response to the great course demand and to expand access to EC-001, ARRL developed a self-guided version of the course, EC-001-S, which launched in June. This version of the course is designed for those who prefer to work independently and who do not need guidance from an online mentor. EC-001-S was previously offered only during specific sessions along with the traditional mentored version. The course opened for general enrollment on November 6. [Visit](#) the ARRL Online Course Registration page for more information and to register.



WORD TO THE WISE

(The ARRL Contest Update for October 30, 2019)

Skin Effect

Most of the flow of RF currents occurs near the surface of an electrical conductor. The depth of the current flow is inversely proportional to its frequency. The skin effect is exploited in certain antenna designs such as the End Fed Half Wave where the currents flowing on the inside of a coaxial cable are part of the transmission line, while the currents on the outside of the cable are part of the antenna.

(The ARRL Contest Update for November 13, 2019)

Nomophobia: The fear of being without, or not being able to use, your cellular phone.

HELP WANTED

We are in need of a co-editor for our monthly Listening Post. The job duties are to collect the articles from various authors/members within the club and on the Board of Directors. Gather other information pertinent to creating a newsletter. Afterwards provide the President with a print ready copy of the newsletter for publication to the membership.

You will be working with another co-editor and as in the past, one co-editor takes one month the other co-editor takes the following month, creating a monthly rotation. Having some editing and newsletter creation is a huge plus. Patience dealing with volunteer authors is golden!!

If you are interested, please contact John Knott, N4JTK at jknott@oarc.org . If you have any examples of your work you want to send, please do so.

Swap/Shop/Sell/Trade in *The Listening Post*

This is the opportunity for you to list your amateur radio related items you either have for sale, swap or trade. Listings must be of a non-commercial nature. Pictures of the items can be included.



Ed Thralls, NE4H, 407 254 9209, rusty.trowels@gmail.com

Item #1: GAP TITAN DX

The Titan is the ONLY antenna marketed with total continuous coverage under 2:1 on 10m 12m 15m 17m 20m 30m 40m and 100 KHz on 80m. The Titan is a respectable 25' tall and weighs a solid 25 pounds. The Titan is configured to mount easily on a 1-1/4" O.D. mast. Additional details can be seen at:

<http://gapantenna.com/shop/antennas/titan-dx/>

Asking price: \$275.



Ed Thralls, NE4H, 407 254 9209, rusty.trowels@gmail.com

Item #2: Cushcraft AS3 multi-band three element beam antenna. Used three months; stored in attic for several years. Weighs 27 pounds has a 15.5' turning radius and offers 4.36 sq.ft. wind surface area. Additional details can be seen at:

<https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/csh-a3s>

Asking price: \$375.

OARC will not be responsible for any claims that are made in the listings. OARC reserves the right to reject a submitted item if it is deemed to be inappropriate. A listing will not be repeated from month to month unless it is resubmitted.

Be sure to include your full name, call, and contact information, along with an exact description of the item.

Send your amateur radio related items by email directly to: James Deuel, N0XIA, jdeuel@oarc.org in the following format:

Name, Callsign, Contact information (phone number and/or e-mail address)

Item #1: (Description) Asking price: \$

Item #2: (Description) Asking price: \$

Or

Looking for (description) and willing to pay up to \$

Any item received after the 20th of the month will not be included in the next month's issue of *The Listening Post* newsletter.

Remember - KB4UT, Wayne Nelson's Trader Net held every Tuesday night at 8:00 PM, on the KB4UT 146.760 repeater

If you don't hear what you want on the net, check the Listening Post.

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Weekly Radio Network Meetings

Mon @ 20:00	147.460	Seminole ARES Net
Tues @ 19:00	145.350	Osceola ARES Net
Tues @ 19:30	147.195	Quarter Century Wireless Association
Tues @ 20:00	146.760	Wayne Nelson Trader's Net
Wed @ 19:00	147.300	Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Service
Wed @ 21:00	432.090	Florida Weak Signal Group
Thur @ 19:00	443.050	Orange County ARES Net
Thur @ 20:30	432.090	Florida Weak Signal Group

OARC Meetings and Events 2019/2020

December 4, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center Yes, we are having a December meeting
December 7, Saturday	Christmas Party *** Buy Tickets Sep, Oct, Nov, at club meetings (No purchases at the door), Don't forget an unwrapped toy for a tot
New Year	2020 Meetings and Events
January 1, Wednesday	No Club Meeting – New Year's Day – Beardall Center is closed.
February 5, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm (location TBD)
February 7-9, Friday - Sunday	HamCationSM 2020
March 4, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
March 29, Sunday	American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure
April 1, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center

May 6, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
June 3, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
June 26-27, Saturday and Sunday	ARRL Field Day
July 1, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
August 5, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
September 2, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
October 7, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
November 4, Wednesday	Meeting , 7:30pm at the Beardall Center
December 2, Wednesday	No Club Meeting
December 5, Saturday	Christmas Party

