



The Listening Post



Dedicated to Community Service and All Central Florida Hams January 2025

President's Message

Happy New Year!!

I hope everyone has had a fabulous holiday season.

Having used to work in retail, it still amazes me how much hype there is for Christmas in advance of the holiday, then it seems like at 8pm Christmas night, it's over! Radio stations change back to regular music.

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OARC MEETING

**Wednesday, January 8, 2025
7:30pm**

William Beardall Senior Center
800 South Delaney Avenue,
Orlando, Florida 32801

License Exams: 5:30pm

For information & Updates

See www.oarc.org

OARC Board of Directors

President: John Knott, N4JTK

Vice President: Michael Cauley, W4ORL

Treasurer: Ana Groe, KM4JVE

Secretary: Bob Nocero, W4KBW

Directors:

Bob Cumming, W2BZY

Frank Gergits, KC9GNQ

Christy Moore, KN4MDM

Frank Tagliani, KD4EZW

James Deuel, N0XIA

Ed Thralls, NE4H

The Listening Post is the OARC newsletter for OARC members. The LP will be distributed electronically via E-mail (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 W4ORL, James Deuel N0XIA, Bob Cumming W2BZY, Rick Peron KM4KQQ

OARC REPEATERS

Call	Freq	Shift	PL
KB4UT	146.760	-600	103.5
K1AA**	147.015	+600	103.5

** Wires-X Gateway

D-Star

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

* Linked to reflector REF037C

All D-star repeaters are connected

REF037 is sponsored by OARC

President's Message *(Continued from Previous Page)*

Stores are focusing on New Years resolutions, bowl games and valentines! Anyway, I also hope each of you got something that you wanted for Christmas and was able to spend some quality time with your family and friends!

I want to give a quick shout out to Kevin Jackson, AA3VX and Dennis Veselka, KI4KNC for tackling the technical side of our ISS contact with Sally Ride Elementary School (SRE)! Additionally, I want to thank all the volunteers who not only helped us on the day of the contact but also the classes we held with the students in advance of the contact. All of you rock! The classes provided a little insight on what we were going to be doing the day of the contact for the kids. Let me just say these kids are very smart and well in tune with life on the ISS. Heck, we adults even learned a "fun fact" or two from the kids.

Nothing will ever make me forget the look on those kids' faces when Astronaut Sunita Williams, "Suni", responded to Michael as he was establishing the contact with the ISS. I would describe it as total shock, joy, and excitement. You also could see the excitement on all our faces too when Suni responded, knowing everything was in perfect order to make this a memorable event.

Just a few more shout outs; VP Michael Cauley, W4ORL, for taking the lead on the classes and at the mic on contact day! OARC Member Jim Robarr, KB2CUX, for making all the tape measure antennas for the kids. Director Christy Moore, KN4MDM, who had some hand surgery at 5:30am the morning of the contact, but that did not stop her from coming directly to the school after surgery. She said she wasn't going to miss this day for anything! Finally, even though she is not (yet) part of our club, a huge shout out goes to SRE Magnet Program Teacher Beatriz Berriz. Beatriz, or Betty as she likes to be called, is a little ball of fire. She has done an outstanding job with the kids in preparing them on her own for the contact day. Lots of rehearsals, lots of continuing education with the kids. Betty is working on getting her license and once she has her license, we're going to work on starting a school club with her kids, and so much more! This is starting out to become a great relationship with Betty, the kids, and the school. OARC is now "Partners in Education" with the school, allowing us to assist with bringing ham radio to SRE and much more. The kids and teachers are wrapping up their winter vacation at the time of this writing, but we will soon be going back and teaching the kids fox hunting, we'll be making a future D-Star contact with one of our own overseas with the kids, some more antenna builds, and so much more.

Christmas Party – What can I say that has not already been said? Wow! What a phenomenal night! With Ana not able to be here, Christy took the lead and did an outstanding job. So many desserts. The center pieces. Everything was extraordinary. It's always a fun night, this is an opportunity for Michael and I with the Board's help

in recognizing some of the fine members we have in our club. Well, unbeknownst to Michael and I, we were also going to be surprised! It appears that Director Bob Cumming, W2BZY went to the rest of the Board (obviously Michael or I was not included) and asked for their support in honoring us both with an OARC Life Membership. Yes, we were surprised as normally we are the one surprising everyone else. I know I speak for both Michael and I when I say Thank You! We are honored to be Life Members and will continue to promote and support the club every way we can. Very proud to be a member of this club!

Reminder that there will not be a meeting in February. We will return in March to Beardall on our normal first Wednesday of the month. We will be accepting Nominations for the Board.

73,

John Knott, N4JTK

Our Club is Growing – New Members and Birthdays

(By Rick Peron, KM4KQQ, Membership Chairman)

Welcome
to our
New Members

KQ4ZIK Roger Harr/Tech

KQ4WYM Jorge Lopez/Tech

Lellie Lopez/ Family

Birthdays this Month



Henry Richter
AE4NJ Timothy Starr
K1OPS Vladimir Filippov
KC2ARX Bill Adams
KC9GNQ Frank Gergits
KE4MVK Robert MacMurray
KI4ZS Donald Haag
KN4RDD Joseph Bivins
KQ4NNL James Anderson
N4ORQ Dick Camnitz
NM2V Lesly Saint-Victor

KJ4LYY Roger Zubarik
KN6LGQ Todd Roy
KQ4POI Don Bolton
N4RDS Roger Sack
W1NZZ Tameka Corrales
WY1E Michael Kooiman

Beraldo Vazquez
AG4RB Robert Brooks
K4RSV George Presley
KC4YJM Rita Van Trump
KD4PTT Mike Urban
KF4SIR Dale Coleman
KJ4ZU Jason Cardwell
KQ4AFY Jeremy Bouse
KQ4QQT Ray Renfro
N4UMB Joe Patti
W2APD Albert DeFilippo

New ARRL Memberships and ARRL Renewal Memberships

OARC is an ARRL Affiliated Club and can receive a commission for every new ARRL membership and renewal submitted to ARRL Headquarters.



All membership dues are sent to ARRL to be processed, and the club receives a commission payment directly from ARRL. OARC could earn money while promoting the many benefits and programs of ARRL to ensure that amateur radio is protected and continues to be strong.

Family, Blind or 21-and-under discounted memberships are not applicable for any discount.

This may not be combined with any other promotion or special offer.

Pick up an application from Rick Peron, KM4KQQ, at any meeting.

HOW ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN OARC?

Thank you for being a part of the Orlando Amateur Radio Club (OARC). Can you believe that it's been such a short time since you first joined or last renewed your club membership? We hope you've been able to enjoy all the benefits of your OARC membership these past months.

RENEW NOW

If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Rick Peron KM4KQQ at Membership@oarc.org to see how we can meet your needs. We'd love to hear your feedback!

Membership is vital for the survival and continued functioning of the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, a nonprofit organization.

Membership in OARC includes:

- A monthly meeting with educational programs/current information about club activities for the amateur radio hobby,
- Camaraderie with others who enjoy the amateur radio hobby,
- A monthly newsletter with current information on a variety of amateur radio topics,
- Voting rights in annual elections of leadership positions within OARC,
- Connectivity through weekly local radio nets and social media.

By renewing your membership, you will help OARC continue to provide you with local amateur radio support you may need as you grow in the hobby.

Membership renewal is simple. Fill out the membership form found near the end of this newsletter and return to the address listed or bring it with you to the next monthly meeting of OARC and drop it off with the Membership Chairperson.

Expiring 1/30/2025

First Name Last Name/Call

James Anderson/KQ4NNL
Robert Brooks/AG4RB
Joseph Fitzsimmons/KQ4NNR
Armando Mastrapa/N4AFM
Pete McCauley/KQ4NOF
Aleksandar Vasilev/KQ4DQP
William Warner/KV4WG
Richard Wilson/WR4RW

Expiring 2/28/2025

First Name Last Name/Call

Rafael Almonte/WP4B
Pedro Almonte/
Chris Bloxsom/AA4CB
Fernando Caraballo/KO4BBK
Edward Caraballo/KD9UKC
Rodney Cavin/W4VBK
Mark Eckert/KQ4PBM
Bob Grosso/KO4MLX
Alejandro Malave-Barrozzi/KN4YRX
Alan Marote/WA1LBG
Rob Matheison/K4GPM
Joe Millard/K4JM
Melissa Perez/KB4MEL
Laura Petrie/WT1K
Michael Platzer/KJ4ROC
Henry Richter/
Bonnie-Jo Roux/WA2MMY
Earle Sanborn/AB4DS
Robert Wall/W4WDI

Expiring 3/30/2025

First Name Last Name/Call

Don Bolton/KQ4POI
Mark Bullington/KQ4POJ
Greg Coffman/FAMILY
Joshua Keeler/KO4MMM
John Keeler/N8JOK
Wojciech Kossowski/KE4MSM
Gonzalo Rosa/KQ4POK



Silent Key – Jerry Porter, KF4ZRN

(By John Knott, N4JTK)



I'm saddened to hear that Jerry Porter, KF4ZRN, became a silent key on Tuesday, Christmas Eve. Jerry was a Life Member of Orlando Amateur Radio Club (OARC), has served as a Volunteer Examiner (VE), member of Orange County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), and one of the founders of College Park Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

I first met Jerry back in the 90's before I was even an amateur radio operator while taking the City of Orlando CERT Class. Jerry was newly licensed and found a need for CERT to establish a communications aspect of CERT. Along with Bill Jennings, KI4DGD, Jerry started the Orlando CERT Ham Radio Group. Jerry served as the group's Emergency Coordinator until a couple of years ago.



Jerry and the Orlando CERT Ham Radio Group covered the OARC Get on the Air (GOTA) station at Field Days for many years, always taking the time to show and explain ham radio to anyone from the public that came out to Field Day and see what it was all about. They were always instrumental in helping the public Get On The Air! Jerry also served as a VE with OARC for many years. Jerry spent many years as a member of Orange County ARES, too. Jerry was very active on the HF bands checking in daily with the North Florida ARES HF Net and the North Florida HF Phone Net.

Jerry will be missed. It is my understanding that Jerry did not want any services. Please keep Jerry's wife and family in your thoughts and prayers.

Volunteer Examiner Report

(by Aaron Morrison, AE4KO / Bob Cumming, W2BZY)

The Orlando Amateur Radio Club VE Team congratulates the following people who earned new or upgrades to their amateur radio licenses during the recent session before the OARC meeting:



EXTRA CLASS *

GENERAL CLASS *

TECHNICIAN CLASS **

Roger Harr: KQ4ZIKYHB

* Congratulate these hams on their upgrades and listen for them in the new bands/frequencies they now have privileges to use.

** Listen for these new hams to "get on the air" once their license is in the database. Be sure to welcome them to a wonderful hobby and a whole new world!

The Orlando Amateur Radio Club holds a Ham Radio License Exam Session the first Wednesday of each month just prior to our club meeting. Testing begins at 5:30pm. You can always check out our website at OARC.org for the latest information.

The Volunteer Examiners for this session included:

AE4KO Aaron Morrison	KT3S Den Ardinger	N2KIQ Paul Kronenwetter
K3OCM Kim Wells	NE4H Edmund Thralls	W2BZY Robert Cumming
WD4ORM George Markward	WR4RW Rich Wilson	W4VBK Rodney Cavin
W9TAX David Corral	N4UMB Joseph Patti	



OARC Meetings and Events 2025

Important Meeting Information

January 8, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm OARC Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: Yaesu Product Announcements By: John Kruk, N9UPC</p>
February 5, Wednesday	<p style="text-align: center;">NO MEETING, HamCation</p>
March 5, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: HamCation By: Michael Cauley, W4ORL</p>
April 3, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: Grounding and Bonding By: Ward Silver, N0AX</p>
May 7, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: TBD</p>
June 4, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: Solar Activity: By the Numbers By: Rob Suggs, NN4NT</p>
June 28-29, Saturday - Sunday	<p style="text-align: center;">Location: TBD Set up on Friday afternoon, June 27th</p>
July 2, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: Operating in a Foreign Port By: Jeremy Bouse, KQ4AFY</p>
August 6, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: ASK an ELMER (Q&A Session)</p>
September 3, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: Power, Current, Voltage, and Resistance (PIER) Review Method of Circuit Analysis By: Eric Nichols, KL7AJ</p>

October 1, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: Remote HF Station Ideas and Building Blocks for New Hams & Remote Operating By: Mike Walker, VA3MW</p>
November 5, Wednesday	<p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: Building an Off-Grid Remote Ham Radio Site By: Bruce Perens, K6BP</p>
December 6, Saturday	Holiday Party

Local Area Amateur Radio Club Contact Information

Club Name	When	Where	Contact
Orlando Amateur Radio Club (OARC)	1 st Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm License Testing at 5:30pm	Beardall Senior Center 800 S. Delaney, Orlando, FL	Bob Nocero, W4KBW at info@oarc.org
Lake Monroe Amateur Radio Society	1 st Thursday of each month at 7:00pm	Winter Springs Civic Center - 400 North Edgemon Avenue, Winter Springs, FL	Joe Marsh, KQ4AID at LMARS.ARC@gmail.com
Bahia Shriners Amateur Radio Unit	2 nd Wednesday of the month	Perkins Restaurant 215 W. SR 436 Altamonte Springs	Rod Cavin, W4VBK w4vbk@arri.net
Quarter Century Wireless Club (QCWA)	2 nd Thursday of the month	Perkins Restaurant 701 E SR 434, Winter Springs, FL (1 blk east of HRO)	Roberta Cohen, WA2FRW at Wa2frw@aol.com
Bill Church-and-Christy Moore-CERT Team 62	4 th Thursday of the month at 6:00pm	Recreation Hall, 3000 Clarcona Rd., Apopka FL	Christy Moore, KN4MDM (407) 921-9555

Osceola County ARES	Last Monday of the month at 6:00pm	Osceola County EOC, 2586 Partin Settlement Rd, Kissimmee, FL	Kq4afy@osceolacountares.org
Central Florida Repeater Association (CFRA)	Last Wednesday of each month Arrive around 6pm for some food and chat. Meeting starts about 7:00pm	Perkins Restaurant 6425 University Blvd, Winter Park, FL	Bob Nocero, W4KBW at W4kbw@cfl.rr.com
Solavita Radio Club	Last Thursday of the month at 7:00pm	Gator Room, Solivita, 404 Village, Dr, Poinciana, FL	operator@kq4afy.xyz
Radio Scouting WB4SA	Annual meetings, Quarterly events	Camp La Noche, 41940 Boy Scout Rd, Paisley, FL	Ken Lyons, KN4MDJ kn4mdj@gmail.com info@RadioScouting.us

Weekly Radio Networks

Mon @ 19:15	147.285 MHz	Seminole VHF Traffic Net - Except - First Monday of the month (147.555 Simplex)
Mon @ 20:00	147.090 MHz	Seminole ARES Net - Except - First Monday of the month (146.460 Simplex)
Tues @ 19:00	145.350 MHz	Osceola ARES Net
Tues @ 19:30	147.195 MHz	Quarter Century Wireless Association
Tues @ 20:00	146.760 MHz	Wayne Nelson Trader's Net
Wed @ 19:00	147.300 MHz	Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Service
Wed @ 21:00	432.090 MHz	Florida Weak Signal Group
Thur @ 19:00	443.050 MHz	Orange County ARES Net
Thur @ 20:30	432.090 MHz	Florida Weak Signal Group



Propagation Beacons

(Florida Weak Signals Society – W4FWS)

Frequency	Power (Watts)	Antenna	Location
50.066.7 MHz	15	Horizontal Loop	EL98HN (A)
144.277 MHz	20	Horizontal Loop	EL98HN
222.056 MHz	10	Horizontal Loop	EL98HN
432.307 MHz	20	Horizontal Loop	EL98HN
902.400 MHz	10	Egg Beater	EL98HN
1296.000 MHz	25	Egg Beater	EL98HN
2304.050 MHz	12	Egg Beater	EM80MI (B)
3456.075 MHz	6	Alford Slot	EL98HN (C)
3400.240 MHz	4		
5760.120 MHz	8	Wave Guide Slot	EL98HN
10368.015 MHz	3	Wave Guide Slot	EL98HN
24192.035 MHz	0.150	Wave Guide Slot	EL98HN

(A) Off the Air, FT8 used to indicate band openings
(B) Off the Air
(C) The FCC reappropriated this band
Antennas are horizontally polarized and reasonably omnidirectional
Information current as of March 4, 2024
For more information, contact the [Florida Weak Signal Society](#).



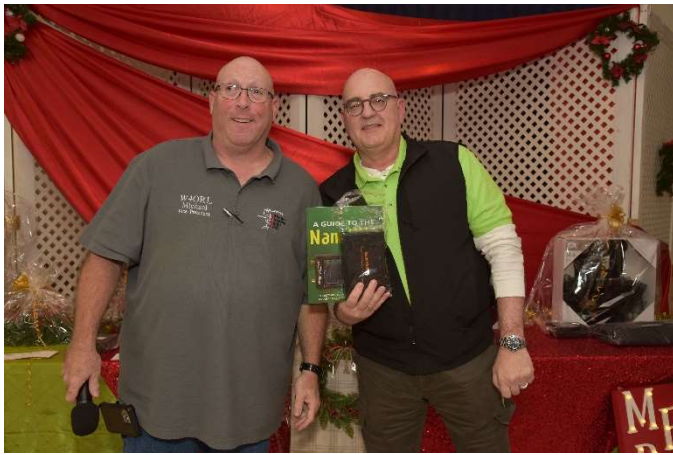
OARC Christmas Party

(Selected Images)
Photo Credit: Bob Nocero, W2KBW











ARISS Contact with Students at Sally Ride Elementary School

(By Ed Thralls, NE4H with Excerpts from the ARISS News Release No. 24-92, December 15, 2024)

Sally Ride Elementary, located in Taft, a suburb of Orlando, FL, is an aviation and aerospace magnet school serving about 400 children, from prekindergarten to fifth grade. Named after Dr. Sally Ride, the first American woman to fly in space, the school campus was formed out of two merged public schools. In addition to their Aviation and Aerospace Magnet Program, students in the school's STEM classes have designed rockets and solar cars, built airplanes and hot air balloons, and solved engineering problems.

After almost a year of planning and administration, Sally Ride Elementary received schedule confirmation for an ARISS radio contact between an astronaut aboard the International Space Station (ISS) and students at the Sally Ride Elementary School on December 17, 2024.

In preparation for this ARISS contact, students have been learning about radio communication, and they built an antenna out of wood and tape measure tape from members of the Orlando Amateur Radio Club (<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1300295214246890>). Students were also able to directly observe the ISS passing over their area on a video monitor in the auditorium.

This was a direct contact via Amateur Radio allowing students to ask their 24 questions of astronaut Sunita "Sun" Williams, amateur radio call sign KD5PLB.

The amateur radio ground station for this contact was set up on the school grounds. Amateur radio operators from the Orlando Amateur Radio Club using call sign K1AA, operated the ground station, established and maintained the ISS connection.

(<https://www.youtube.com/live/vuyVBUGvs5s>)

Many members of the Orlando Amateur Radio Club were involved with this project, and it is not over. The club donated equipment to set up a school club station once the lead teacher, Beatriz "Betty" Berriz Castro, passes her amateur radio license exam.

Thank you to the Orlando Amateur Radio Club and the following amateur radio operators without whose support would not have made this possible: John Knott, N4JTK, Michael Cauley, W4ORL, Kevin Jackson, AA4XV, Dennis Veselka, KI4KNC, Dave Jordan, AA4KN, Bob Cumming, W2BZY, Jim Robarr, KB2CUX, Christy Moore, KN4MDM, Bill Church, KN4LSU, Ken Lyons, KN4MDJ, Aaron Morrison, AE4KO, Randy Ellington, KD8J, Diana Coffman, KO4VEJ, Andy Gausz, KG4UCD, Barry Isbelle, N2DB, Vladimir Philippov, K1OPS, and Ed Thralls, NE4H

HAMS IN THE PARK – Seeking Event Hosts

(By Joe Marsh, KQ4AID, Board of Directors - LMARS)

jhmarshfla@gmail.com 407-454-1520

Our last "HAMS in the Park" event was on November 9 at Blue Jacket Park. We had to move it from the Orlando Veteran's Memorial Park due to parking issues. Lesson Learned. It was still a great time, and we had 18 people in total. We had several first-time attendees and some really cool go-boxes. You should have been there.

Even if you don't come out to operate you should stop by and meet the folks and see what they have going on. It was a good time.

Our next event will probably be in February due to Holidays and other activities but watch for an upcoming e-mail. I am working on a few things so we may have a "Hams in the Park" in January.

I do need your help though. "Hams in the Park" has turned out to be a great event. We are gaining visitors every few months and it is growing in popularity. In the past, we have been running this event using strictly LMARS members. When I put "Hams in the Park" together I did it to support OARC, LMARS, and new Hams in the area. Plus, it was a great way for me to learn as a new operator.

So, what am I getting at? I would like to see one or a few of the OARC members step

up and join myself and the other LMARS members as event hosts for the "Hams in the Park". What do we do as an event host? Thank you for asking.

As an event host, you:

- pick the location
- show up at 8:00
- bring drinks (sometimes lite snacks)
- welcome those attending
- gather the names and call signs of the folks who join us
- help new Hams when they need it
- share with the public if you get questions
- do a little write-up for the newsletter which helps feed it into the next event

I am looking for about 4-5 people total, who will be event hosts, this includes myself, you (if you join us), and the others already helping. We would be able to take turns being the event host. When we are not needed as a host we can participate in the event, or if we have other plans it won't interfere with the "Hams in the Park" event if we can't make it.

So, reach out to me if you're willing to help. And I hope you have a great Holiday.

As always, this event is open to all. Young or mature, new or experienced, licensed or unlicensed, with or without gear. Come out and join us. We would love to see you.

Watch for upcoming emails for "Hams in the Park".

Have a suggestion for a "HAMs in the Park" location, let us know.

Central Florida Area Scouting News

(By Ken Lyons, KN4MDJ)

WB4SA STEM Center

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/stem-center-conversion>

Our STEM center project is progressing with a new \$25k ARRL Foundation Club Station Grant. This covers our Radio Equipment, 3-D Printer and STEM Demo displays. After two years we still need grants and donations to cover the building's remodel and construction before we can proceed with installing the windows, air-conditioning and insulation.

Our local program impacts over 10,000 youth each year and with this dedicated center we can double the impact and offer license training and testing indoors during summer camp. Using this STEM center, we would be able to offer 1,000 Radio Merit Badges and license nearly 200 youth per year.

\$41,000+ Raised by Donors, YouTubers, for ARRL Teachers Institute

(The ARRL Letter for December 5, 2024)

A YouTube telethon to raise money for the [ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology](#) was a resounding success. More than \$21,000 was contributed during the livestream, which unlocked another \$20,000 that donors had set out as a challenge gift. ARRL Director of Development Kevin Beal, K8EAL, says that upped the ante. "It's quite clear that even with the generosity of the donors in attendance, the challenge gift really pushed everyone until the end to meet that goal." There were over 430 gifts made and the most frequent was \$20.

The event, hosted by YouTuber Josh Nass, KI6NAZ, on his popular [Ham Radio Crash Course channel](#), drew thousands of views. On the stream, several teachers and students who have benefited from the TI shared their stories of success. "We were glad that teachers Everton Henriques and Drew Mortenson joined us on the stream. Two of Everton's students attended and were inspirational and impressive. They're the whole reason why we're doing this," said Beal.

A face familiar to longtime ARRL members also paid a visit via video. Former ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, shared her memories of the origins of the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology, which she pioneered. "People have stepped up in just the most wonderful ways over the years. Large donations, small donations — whatever people are able to do — have made it possible to continue this program," she told Beal in a video call.

Craigie attributed the program's success to its flexibility and how it can evolve to meet the changing needs of educators. ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, hopes to pivot the program again for 2025. "We're taking it on the road. Historically, we've flown teachers into ARRL Headquarters (in Newington, Connecticut), but we want to go meet some of them where they are," said Goodgame.

The program has lofty goals for expansion next year. In 2024, there were 7 cohorts – next year will have 16. "We're grateful to everyone who participated in the livestream, whether they watched it, shared it, or donated to it," said Goodgame. "They are enabling us to continue this growth."

A replay of the live telethon can be seen [at this link](#). If you'd like to contribute to the future of ARRL Teachers Institutes on Wireless Technology, visit www.arrl.org/GiveToSTEM.

ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology Now Accepting Applications for 2025 Cohorts

(The ARRL Letter for December 12, 2024)

The ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology (TI) continues to grow. Fresh off a [highly successful YouTube telethon](#) that raised more than \$41,000 for the program, some of next year's dates have been announced. Applications are now open.



The program is growing, and educators will have the opportunity to attend sessions around the country. "We love having the teachers here at ARRL Headquarters, but we wanted to bring this program nationwide," said ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA. Dates and details of the regional sessions are still being determined, but the hope is to touch many areas of the United States.

The application process is straightforward. Interested educators can find the web form at www.arrl.org/ti. ARRL covers all the costs of the TI, including travel, but there is a \$100 application fee if the teacher is accepted.

The success generated from the program is demonstrable. "The teachers leave TI with energy and knowledge. They've taken that and built tremendous programs in their schools," said Goodgame. The program isn't necessarily designed to get young people licensed, but rather to get them thinking about radio in their other areas of study. Teachers work amateur radio and radio technology into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics lessons. Amateur radio is presented as a pathway to get hands-on with the concepts, and to use them in the real world.

There are 16 cohorts planned for the 2025 ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology. "The growth we're seeing in TI is a result of the teachers' experiences with the program, and the donors who enable it," said Goodgame. The TI is funded entirely by donations to the [ARRL Education & Technology Fund](#).

Nashville Amateur Radio Club Marks Historic Milestones

(By Dan Sigmund, W4WWF, NARC President)
(ARRL Club News for December 17, 2024)

The Nashville Amateur Radio Club (NARC), one of the oldest and most esteemed amateur radio organizations in the US, achieved a remarkable dual milestone in 2024, celebrating its 90th anniversary as an ARRL-affiliated club, while also commemorating 107 years of dedicated service to the amateur radio community.



Founded in 1917, the NARC emerged during a transformative era when wireless communication was revolutionizing global connectivity. Over the years, the club has grown from a small group of passionate radio enthusiasts into a vibrant community committed to fostering interest in amateur radio, enhancing communication skills, and providing critical public service support.

The club's affiliation with ARRL, which began in 1934, has been a cornerstone of its operations, underscoring a shared mission of advancing amateur radio as a valuable resource for innovation, education, and emergency preparedness.

Throughout its storied history, the NARC has played a vital role in Tennessee's communications landscape. The club has been instrumental in providing emergency communications during natural disasters, including tornadoes, floods, and ice storms. The club provided communications support in the response to the Christmas Day bombing that occurred in Nashville in 2020. Members are trained operators who volunteer their time and expertise to ensure critical information flows during crises when traditional communication networks fail.

The NARC has also promoted the hobby to new generations through educational outreach, licensing courses, and mentoring programs, inspiring countless individuals to explore the art and science of amateur radio.

To commemorate this historic milestone, the NARC has planned a series of celebratory events and activities. Highlights include:

- Coming up in January 2025, the NARC will conduct a Community Outreach Program, offering workshops and demonstrations to the local hospital community to introduce newcomers to the basics of amateur radio, fostering interest in this enduring hobby.
- In November, the club hosted a special on-air event, operating under the call sign K90 and sending a commemorative QSL card to stations that made contact.

- On December 14, the club opened its doors to the public, showcasing vintage radio equipment, memorabilia, and a timeline of its evolution over the past century.

While the NARC reflects proudly on its past, it remains firmly focused on the future. The club is committed to embracing modern technologies, such as digital modes and satellite communications, while preserving the traditional values of camaraderie and service that have defined its mission.

For more information about the NARC and its anniversary events, visit their website www.NashvilleAmateurRadio.club or follow them on social media.

A Noisy Drill: San Diego ARES Volunteers Power Through Unexpected Challenges

**(By Georgina T0'a Salazar, KN6ZMT)
(The ARES Letter for December 18, 2024)**

The jackhammer roared to life, its rhythmic pounding drowning out the crackle of our radios. As I settled into my chair on the campus of Sharp Memorial Hospital, I couldn't help but feel a sense of irony. We were here to practice emergency communications, but it seemed the construction crew had other plans.

This was my first time volunteering with the [San Diego Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#) (ARES); we volunteer our time and skills to assist in emergency communications. Before moving back to San Diego, I learned about ARES in Santa Clara County (California). As a new ham with a passion for emergency communications, I was excited to join hams who regularly volunteer their time, equipment, and expertise to aid civil authorities in times of need. San Diego ARES provided exceptional supported opportunities for hams looking to grow.

Robert Morgan, W6OHJ, did a fabulous job of organizing and coordinating communication among the various stations in his first time directing traffic as net control operator. In this case, the served authorities were the San Diego Healthcare Disaster Coalition and the County of San Diego Public Health Preparedness and Response. On October 24, 2024, they conducted the county-wide medical emergency exercise. This was a drill with the goals of optimizing planning, enhancing information sharing, and improving resource coordination.

A crucial aspect of the drill was practicing communication support under degraded conditions. This meant a scenario in which traditional communication methods, such as phones and the internet, might be compromised. While the objective was clear, the unexpected noise presented a unique challenge. It was so intense that we couldn't communicate with our teammates at the same table, let alone transmit an intelligible voice message. Despite the chaos, our team adapted to the situation.

As a new participant, I was assigned to work with two experienced hams: Bill Sefton, N6OWF, and Charlie Zigelman, AC6CZ. Charlie had participated in previous drills. This was Bill's third hospital drill. He had provided communications support for eight endurance running events in the San Diego County mountains and deserts. Our team's operation built on this experience from prior drills and real-world events. Besides the rigorous voice set-up, Charlie could rely on Winlink, a digital mode that enables communication via email. Having multiple modes available ensured reliable delivery.

As the drill progressed, the jackhammering continued, a constant reminder of the real-world challenges that could impact emergency response efforts. Joining the hospital staff in the board room where they worked through the drill, we were relieved to find that they were wrapping up. We had successfully navigated the noisy environment and maintained essential communication.

"The volunteerism of San Diego ARES members was overwhelming," reported Assistant Section Manager Rob Freeburn, K6RJF. "Sixty ARES members carved time out of their busy schedules to support twenty medical facilities during an exercise on a Thursday morning, a workday for many." Freeburn also said "we are also appreciative of the voice repeater owners and Winlink gateway system operators who keep their equipment in tip-top operating condition 24/7/365."

While the day had been filled with unexpected challenges, it had also been a valuable learning experience. For one, while we couldn't control the construction noise, we could have mitigated its impact and improved our ability to communicate by using noise-cancelling headphones. We are now better prepared to handle future emergencies, no matter how noisy they might be.

ARRL Kids Day --- on January 4, 2025

(The ARRL Letter for December 19, 2024)

Kids Day runs from 1800 UTC - 2359 UTC.
Operate as much or as little as you like.

The event is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people, to foster interest in getting a license of their own, and give older hams a chance to share their stations and love for amateur radio with their children. You can share the excitement with your own kids, grandkids, a Scout troop, a church, or the general public!

All participants are encouraged to post their story and thumbnail photos to the [Kids Day](#)



Bellevue (Nebraska) ARC and The Science Club at Yates Illuminates kids show their On The Air certificates from January 2024 Kids Day.

[Soapbox page](#). Tell the world about your operations, the fun you had, and the contacts you made! Remember, ARRL must have a completed [release form](#) in order to include youth photos (younger than 18 years of age) in ARRL publications.

There will be a second ARRL Kids Day on June 21, 2025.

More information, including frequencies, suggested exchanges, and how to download a certificate, can be found at [Kids Day](#).

ARRL Awards Recognize Excellence in Ham Radio

(The ARRL Letter for December 19, 2024)

It probably isn't hard to think of someone you know in the hobby who goes above and beyond in service to amateur radio, their club, their fellow hams, or their community. Volunteers are the very core of the Amateur Radio Service, and that dedication is what carries the ARRL Field Organization. Excellence in on-air operating inspires the rest of us to be better, build better, and do better.

ARRL seeks your help in honoring the outstanding work done by hams, through the ARRL Service Awards. There are a host of different awards which are divided into four categories: Education Awards, Media/Public Relations Awards, Technical Awards, and Distinguished Service Awards.

Education Awards

Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award

Named for the Founding President of ARRL, this award goes to a licensed radio amateur under age 21 who has made exemplary contributions to amateur radio and the local community. Nominees must be current ARRL members. Nomination deadline: March 31, 2025.

ARRL Herb S. Brier Award for Instructors and Teachers

Honoring Herb S. Brier, W9AD (SK), ARRL sponsors this award in conjunction with the Lake County (Indiana) Amateur Radio Club to recognize the very best in amateur radio instruction and recruitment. The award goes to a licensed radio amateur and ARRL member who is an ARRL-registered volunteer instructor or ARRL-registered professional classroom teacher. Nomination deadline: March 15, 2025.

Technical Awards

ARRL Microwave Development Award

This award recognizes a radio amateur or group of radio amateurs who contribute to the development of the amateur radio microwave bands. Nomination deadline: March 31, 2025.

ARRL Technical Service Award

This award recognizes a radio amateur or group of radio amateurs who provide amateur radio technical assistance or training to others. Nomination deadline: March 31, 2025.

ARRL Technical Innovation Award

This award recognizes a radio amateur or group of radio amateurs who develop and apply new technical ideas or techniques in amateur radio. Nomination deadline: March 31, 2025.

Public Relations Awards

ARRL Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award

Honoring Phil McGan, WA2MBQ (SK), this award recognizes a radio amateur and ARRL member who has demonstrated leadership in successfully promoting amateur radio to the public. Nomination deadline: March 31, 2025.

ARRL Bill Leonard Award

Honoring Bill Leonard, W2SKE (SK), three annual awards are given to professional journalists or journalistic teams whose outstanding coverage highlights the enjoyment, importance, and public service contribution of the Amateur Radio Service. The award is given in three media categories: audio, visual, and print. Nomination deadline: March 31, 2025.

Distinguished Service Awards

Knight Distinguished Service Award

Honoring Joe T. Knight, W5PDY (SK), the award recognizes exceptional contributions by a Section Manager to the health and vitality of ARRL. Nomination deadline: March 31, 2025 (for consideration during the July ARRL Board meeting).

George Hart Distinguished Service Award

Honoring George Hart, W1NJM (SK), the award recognizes an ARRL member's lifetime of activities within the ARRL Field Organization, including the National Traffic System and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®. Nomination deadline: November 1, 2025.

Winter Field Day 2025, January 25-26

(The ARRL Letter for January 2, 2025)

[Winter Field Day \(WFD\)](#), hosted by the Winter Field Day Association, is scheduled to run from 1900 UTC on Saturday, January 25, through 1859 UTC on Sunday, January 26.

WFD is held on the last full weekend in January and is a communications exercise that can be worked from the comfort of your home or from a remote location. You can participate by yourself, with your friends and family, or with a local club. WFD is designed to help increase your level of preparedness for disasters and for you to improve and practice your operating skills in winter environments, as the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards present unique operating conditions.



WFD is open to participants worldwide. Amateur radio operators may use frequencies on the HF, VHF, or UHF bands and are free to use any mode that can faithfully transmit the required exchange intact. Similar to ARRL's Field Day, bonus points are earned in several ways, including from using non-commercial power sources, operating from remote locations, making satellite contacts, and more. Make sure you register your location at the [WFD registration page](#). To date, there are 345 locations registered around the world.

Also, remember to mark your calendar for 2025 ARRL Field Day on June 28 - 29. For additional information, visit [Field Day \(arrl.org\)](#).

Amateur Radio in the News

(The ARRL Letter for December 5, 12, 19, 2024 and January 2, 2025)

ARRL Public Information Officers, Coordinators, and many other member-volunteers help keep amateur radio and ARRL [in the news](#).

["Grimes County nonprofit seeks donations to buy communication trailer"](#) / 25 ABC KXXV (Texas) November 30, 2024 -- *The Grimes County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Joplin Amateur Radio Club connecting kids with Santa in special event"](#) / KSNF (Missouri) December 3, 2024 -- *The Joplin Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club offers free classes on ham radio starting Jan. 11"](#) / The Daily Herald (Illinois) December 3, 2024 -- *The Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["On Air: Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club provides community for those interested in communication"](#) / Southeast Missourian (Missouri) December 10, 2024 -
- *The Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Communication technology: Options for staying connected for next year's storm season"](#) / WGPU (Florida) December 8, 2024 -- *The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club Inc. is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["PARC installs new radio repeater in Pickett"](#) / Overton County News (Tennessee) December 10, 2024 -- *The Plateau Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["From NEPA to the North Pole: Ham radio lets kids talk to Santa"](#) / The Times - Tribune (Pennsylvania) December 11, 2024 -- *The W3USR Amateur Radio Club Scranton University is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Hams Give Hillsboro Charter Students a Space Station Hookup"](#) / LoudounNow (Virginia) December 11, 2024 -- *The Ham Radio Club at Hillsboro.*

["Amateur radio antenna returns to Carson Planning Commission"](#) / Nevada Appeal (Nevada) December 14, 2024 -- *Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS).*

["Ham radio is still a disaster lifeline, even in the iPhone era - here's why"](#) / ZDNET (New York) December 18, 2024

["Mike Hall to run Lanierland Amateur Radio Club Net On Christmas Day as he recovers from stroke"](#) / WDUN (Georgia) December 25, 2024

["Local club connecting amateur radio enthusiasts"](#) / Weirton Daily News (Ohio) December 27, 2024

["Ham it up with radio hams at Belwin"](#) / The Gazette (Minnesota) December 28, 2024 -- *The Stillwater Amateur Radio Association is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

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

**John Mahagan/WB4JHS, jmahagan@bellsouth.net
Dunnellon, FL**

Cell Phone: (321) 229-6527 has the following want:

**Item # 1: I am looking for a Moxon 10 meter beam or a 6 & 10 combo.
I can pick up around Central Florida.**

It is a new year and there is a new procedure for listing "Swap/Shop/Sell/Trade" items in The Listening Post.

Send your items to be posted to James Deuel, N0XIA (jdeuel@oarc.org) before the 20th of the month. All lists received after the 20th of the month may be held over until the following month. The items will appear in The Listening Post newsletter around the first of each month and will continue to be posted for three months. To make it easy, send listings in this format:

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

Item #1: (Description)

Asking price: \$

additional comments

Item #2: (Description)

Asking price: \$

additional comments

Or

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

EXAMPLE:

Ima Ham, WX4XYZ, Ham@gmail.com

Item#1: Looking for hand microphone for Kenwood TS-520 transceiver

Willing to pay up to \$25, including shipping

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.

The Fine Print: Listings must be of a non-commercial nature. Pictures of the items should not be included in the email listing but the member offering the items might have them available for anyone who may be interested. OARC will not be responsible for any claims that are made in the postings and reserves the right to reject a submitted item if the item is deemed to be inappropriate.





OARC Membership Application

Make checks payable to:
Orlando Amateur Radio Club

Mail to:
Orlando Amateur Radio Club
4046 N Goldenrod Rd, Suite 156
Winter Park, FL 32792

To have your membership card mailed to you, please include a SASE with your check.

Date: ___/___/20___ [] Regular Member [] Family Member [] Associate Member
[] New Membership [] Renewal [] CMP

Name: _____ Call _____ Class _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address (print) _____

(Home) Phone: _____ (Cell) Phone _____ Birth Month _____

Rates: Regular [] 1 year \$15.00 [] 3 years \$40.00 [] 6 years \$75.00

Rates: Family [] 1 year \$5.00 per family member Husband, Wife or Child under 18

Rates: Associate [] 1 year \$15.00 Dues Total: _____

All Membership(s) will expire ONE, THREE or SIX year(s) from date paid.

Other Club Affiliations: _____

Are you an ARRL Member: [] Yes [] No

Name Badges: White letters on Black background with Gold embossed OARC logo.

[] Regular 3" x 1.5" @ \$10.00 each

Name: _____ Call _____

All badges are to be picked up at the General meeting or add \$4.00 for shipping & handling.

Shipping & Handling: [] Yes [] No

Badges _____ **S&H** _____ **Total** _____

Member Advertisements

For OARC members only, send your business size ad to:

LP_ads@OARC.org

Just \$10 for 12 months!



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