



The Listening Post



Dedicated to Community Service and All Central Florida Hams March 2025

President's Message

Hello everyone. I hope everyone is doing well and recovering after HamCation®. What great weather we had for HamCation® this year.

Be sure to join us at the meeting this Wednesday as the HamCation® General Chairman, Michael Cauley, will do a presentation about HamCation®, including some exciting news at the end.

(Continued on Next Page)

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | • President's Message |
| 3 | • Club Elections – Nominations |
| 4 | • HamCation 2025 (Selected Images) |
| 14 | • HamCation Appreciation Picnic --- March 15, 2025 |
| 16 | • Our Club is Growing – New Members |
| 16 | • OARC Birthdays |
| 16 | • New ARRL Memberships and ARRL Renewal Memberships |
| 17 | • How About Your Membership in OARC? |
| 18 | • Volunteer Examiner Report |
| 20 | • OARC Meetings and Events 2025 -- IMPORTANT INFO |
| 21 | • Special Event Station - March 8: Florida Becomes a State |
| 22 | • Training the Next Generation of Net Controllers |
| 23 | • Hurricane Watch Net Turning 60, Seeking Net Control Operators |
| 24 | • Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act Re-Introduced |
| 24 | • RigExpert's Admin Office Destroyed in Russian Missile Attack — |
| 25 | • Grant will Help Young Amateur Radio Operators Become |
| 26 | • DX Opportunities Abound Around ARRL International DX Contest |
| 26 | • YLRL Scholarships Available for Students |
| 27 | • High School and a Sci-Fi Movie Spark Interest in Amateur Radio |
| 28 | • Diet and Exercise Make for an Effective Communicator |
| 30 | • ARRL's "On the Air Live" Continues to Grow |
| 30 | • Amateur Radio in the News |
| 32 | • Local Area Amateur Radio Club Contact Information |
| 33 | • Weekly Radio Networks |
| 33 | • Propagation Beacons – Florida Weak Signal Society |
| 34 | • OARC Membership Application |
| 35 | • OARC Member Advertisements |

OARC MEETING

Wednesday, March 5, 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 posted on the OARC.org web page (oarc.org/club-listening-post).

Editor: Ed Thralls NE4H.

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

Contributing to this edition: John Knott N4JTK, Bob Nocero, W4KBW, Bob Cumming W2BZY, Aaron Morrison, AE4KO, and 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)*

I don't want to take away from any of Michael's thunder, but I also want to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers for this year's HamCation®. Every year it takes an army of volunteers to make HamCation® happen. This year we were closer to reaching our goal in volunteers that were needed, but we were still a little short but with everyone's help, HamCation® still happened, and it was a successful event.

Per our club Bylaws, as President, I must nominate and submit for board approval within 60 days of the closing of HamCation®, who will be the HamCation® Chairman and Finance Chairman for the following year. I am happy to announce that I have nominated Michael Cauley, W4ORL as the HamCation® Chairman and Ana Groe, KM4JVE, as the Finance Chairwoman, for HamCation® 2026. The board voted unanimously in agreement with my nominations. I ask the club to continue to support Michael and offer any assistance to him by volunteering during HamCation® 2026 and even possibly on the Committee in a capacity that you are comfortable with.

Club Elections are coming up in April. We kick off the process at the March meeting by opening nominations for ALL board positions. Please see my article in this newsletter edition for more information on nominations, elections, and what it takes to be a board member.

On Sunday March 30, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Tour de Cure will be having their annual event to raise funds for Diabetes research to find a cure for diabetes. Michael and I have been on the planning committee for the Tour de Cure for 20 years. This year, changes were made nationally to include a new event company contracted to do Support and Gear (SAG) support during the event. This alleviates us from SAGing riders. Our duties were minimized to the extent we would barely be needed. During a recent Zoom meeting with those that have assisted with Tour de Cure (TdC) in the past, it was mentioned since the American Diabetes Association hired and is paying for day of event logistics and rider support, it created a very grey area on amateur radio assisting. Since the ADA has given up the duties to an outside company and they are paying this company to do the job, amateur radio operators can be operating in an extremely grey area if we continue to help and supply information via amateur radio to this company. ADA would not be the beneficiary of the information provided; it would be the paid company. Why is this different than previous years? For the past 19 years, we have built a "business model" on how we operate and taking on more duties, at no charge to the ADA. We have handled everything from law enforcement coordination, SAG support, Rover support, rest stop communications, bike repair communications and coordination, supply vehicle communications and coordination, rider support phone numbers and volunteers to answer these calls, and much more. ADA was the beneficiary of these services. This year, with the new company coming in to take over everything above, the outside company would be the beneficiary of any services we still assisted with and create

this grey area. So, as a group, it is decided that we will not be able to support the Tour de Cure as long as the ADA chooses to use an outside company to take care of the day of event rider support functions. If in the future, the ADA wishes to go back to how TdC has operated in the past, we will re-consider assisting again.

73,

John Knott, N4JTK

Club Elections – Nominations

(By John Knott, N4JTK)

At the upcoming March membership meeting, we will be accepting nominations for the elections in April.

All Board positions are up for elections every year; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 6 Director positions.

The current OARC Bylaws state the following about who is eligible to run for office:

Article IV Section 2: Number, Tenure, and Qualifications.

The officers of the Corporation shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. There shall be six (6) Directors at Large. All officers and directors shall be elected for a one (1) year term at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation. **Candidates for any office must be a voting member in good standing for at least one (1) year prior to the Annual Meeting and shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older. There is no limit on the number of terms a member may serve in any position.**

Article V Section 1:

1. President. The President shall be responsible for the coordination and supervision of the work of the other Officers and any employees, agents, professional advisors, and consultants. The President shall appoint a Property Manager and a Repeater Manager each having duties as defined in ARTICLE VIII. He/she may sign, execute, and deliver on the name of the corporation all deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts and other instruments when specifically authorized by the Board, except in cases where items are expressly delegated by these By-Laws or the Board to some other Officer or agent. He/she may perform such other duties as may be assigned by the agent. He/she may perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board. Unless otherwise provided by the Board or these By-Laws, he/she shall preside, when present, at all meetings.

2. Vice President. The Vice President shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Board or the President. In the absence of the President, or in the event of his/her death, inability, or refusal to act, shall perform all duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all of the powers of and be subject to all of the restrictions of the President as set forth in these By-Laws.

3. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, see that notices are duly given as required by law or these By-Laws, and be the custodian of the corporate records. He/She shall see that the books, reports, statements and all other documents and records required by law are properly kept and filed and kept available to the Board on request

4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds, securities, notes, contracts, deeds, and other indices of title and valuable assets of the Corporation. He/She shall receive and give receipt for money payable to the Corporation and deposit all moneys in such depositories as shall be selected by the Board. He/She shall cause such funds to be dispersed by check or draft, signed as the Board may require, and be responsible for the accuracy of the amounts of, and cause to be preserved proper vouchers for, all moneys dispersed. He/She shall have the right to require from time-to-time reports or statements giving such information as he/she may require with respect to any and all financial transactions of the Corporation. He/She shall keep or cause to be kept at such place as the Board shall designate, correct records of the moneys, business, and transactions of the Corporation, and exhibit them to any Officer or Director. He/She shall render to the Board, whenever requested, an account of the financial condition of the Corporation and of all of his/her transactions as treasurer, and, as soon as may be possible after the close of the fiscal year, make and submit to the Board a like report for such fiscal year, and lay before each Annual Meeting, the financial statements of the Corporation. The Treasurer is to be bonded at Club expense.

We welcome any member who meets the qualifications to hold either an Officer or Director position to run, but I do ask that before submitting your name, to please take a second and reflect for a moment that you are able to commit the time that is needed to fulfill the position that you are seeking. The above information about the duties of the officers is straight from the by-laws. What it does not say is the amount of time it does take to run the club. I have stated this many times before a nominating period, be ready to WORK. Be ready to spend time on email, the phone, reflecting, communicating (yes, this is an area where people on any board fail first) make sure you have fresh batteries in your thinking cap because this club does not need members of the board just occupying space and wanting to be on the board for prestige. It must have willing, ready, capable, and motivated individuals to run this corporation.

A Board position is not for everyone, we know that. But this club has a lot of opportunities for members to step up and help. So even if a Board position is not something that you are interested in but still want to give the club a hand in something, send me an email. Call me. Text me. Let me know. I have lots of ideas that this club can do, I just do not have the time to do it all, but one of you could be the perfect fit, but I would not know that unless you let me know.

You can email you nomination to Rick Peron, KM4KQQ nominations@oarc.org or you can let him know in person at the March meeting. Nominations are closed at the end of the meeting on Wednesday night.

HamCation® 2025

(Selected Images)

Photo Credit: Peter Meijers, AI4KM



Before the HamCation gates opened at the East and South gates, long lines of ham radio operators were waiting to enter the show on Friday as well as on Saturday.



HamCation General Chairman Michael Cauley W4ORL, at the ARRL booth with Bob Inderbitzen NQ1R, Product Development Manager ARRL, Kristen Macintire K6WX, ARRL First Vice President and David Minster N2AA, ARRL CEO.



A very full East/West Hall. Hams eager to see the newest radios and ham related products.



Ray Novak, N9JA, ICOM Senior Sales Manager, was always very busy informing the ham radio operators about the latest ICOM products.



Before HamCation started the International Relations Chairpersons were contacted by visitors from more than thirty countries. A great surprise was the big delegation from Brazil. Sixteen ham operators came to visit the HamCation International Relations booth. In the middle Lidy Meijers KJ4LMM International Relations Chairperson.



The SWAPS building was sold out as usual. Many hams came and found exactly what they needed, or wanted to have.



HamCation® 2025

(More Selected Images)
Photo Credit: Bob Nocero, W4KBW















Grand Prize
And ----- Grand Prize Winner!
See you all next year at HamCation®, February 13-15, 2026



HamCation® Appreciation Picnic

When: March 15, 2025

Where: Bill Fredrick Park at Turkey Lake

3401 S. Hiawassee Road

Orlando, Florida 32835

Pavilion 1 & 2

Time: 1:00 pm

On behalf of the Orlando Amateur Radio Club and the HamCation Committee, **you are cordially invited** to our annual HamCation Volunteer Appreciation Picnic.

We thank you for your devoted time and efforts in helping make HamCation® a huge success. Your contribution has allowed us to continue growing and improving the show yearly.

We will have Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Veggie Burgers, Grilled Chicken, Potato Chips, and much more. I promise you will not go away hungry.

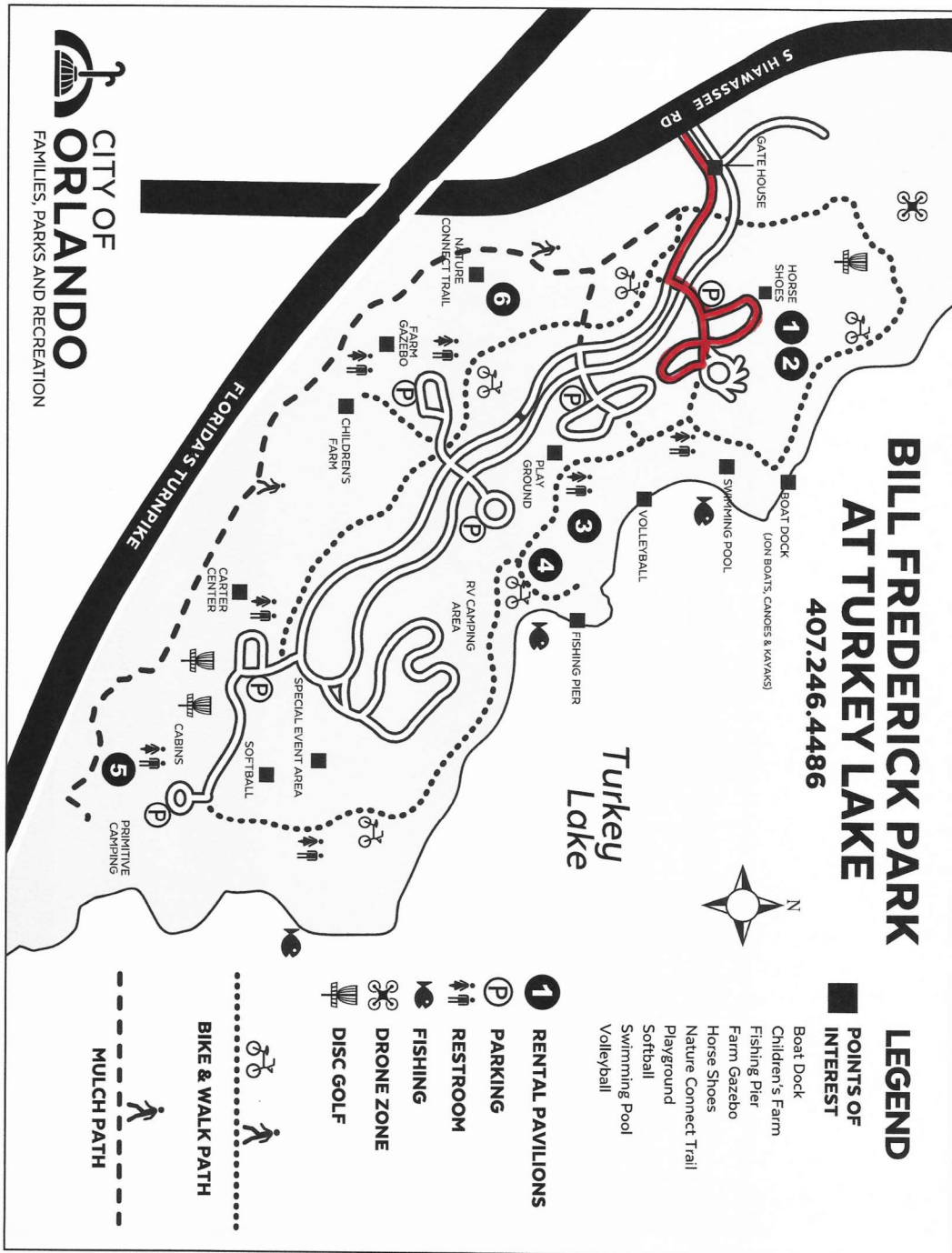
We will have some **great prizes** to give away.

Please RSVP via e-mail to picnic@hamcation.com by March 8, 2025

When you come through the main gate follow the road to the Lot 1 Sign. Then take the left and follow the signs to Pavilion 1 & 2 On the map below follow the red road.

The Park Charges admission. When you get to the Main Gate tell

Attendant you are attending the HamCation[®] Picnic and it will be free to get in. OARC covers the fee for everyone.



Our Club is Growing – New Members and Birthdays

(By Rick Peron, KM4KQQ, Membership Chairman)



AC4JL James C Lowe/Extra
KN4NUI Steve Broome/General
KQ4UVP Joseph Danet/Extra
KR4BGD David Aronowitz/Tech
KZ4QD Brian Rieker/Extra

KG5PTE James Horak/Extra
KO4NTA Glenn Davies/General
KR4BGB Ryan Vinton/Tech
KR4BHF Daniel Irick/General
MOTJK Roger Tuffin/Advanced

Birthdays this Month



Lellie Lopez
AE2A Mitch Baum
K4FLY Jason De la Cruz
KG5PTE James Horak
KO4HWP Katey Williams
KQ4FYG Vidyanand Persaud
KN4YRX Alejandro Malave-Barrozzi
KR4BGB Ryan Vinton

Trista Lyons
AL7BA James Shaw
KB9AMM Scott Cole
KN4MDJ Kenneth Lyons
KQ4HAO Gary Homan
KQ4ROU Eric Linson
KQ4WYM Jorge Lopez
W4RDJ Robert Jones

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 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

Expiring 4/30/2025**First Name Last Name/Call**

William Church/KN4LSU
 Sarah Day/KN4JYI
 John Egolf/KD4NKU
 Vladimir Filippov/K1OPS
 Fred Fitte/NF2F
 Frank Gergits/KC9GNQ
 Gilbert Harris/WA2MYD
 Joe Marsh/KQ4AID
 Richard Mastrocola/KE2DBQ
 Christy Moore/KN4MDM
 Bob Nocero/W4KBW
 Rick Peron/KM4KQQ
 Ray Renfro/KQ4QQT
 Nicolas Serrano/KQ4QVC
 Felix Serrano/KQ4QVF
 Frank Tagliani/KD4EZW
 Sean Thompson/N2APE
 Edmund Thralls/NE4H
 Mike Urban/KD4PTT

Expiring 5/30/2025**First Name Last Name/Call**

Nelson Arias/KQ4PZB
 Jason Bowers/KQ4RVJ
 Jason Cardwell/KJ4ZU
 Amy Cardwell/KJ4AMY
 Ken Countess/KN2D
 Randy Ellington/KD8J
 Michael Gotschall/KV4RA
 Nick Lane/KZ4HD
 Doc Maris/W9KCM
 John Paff/AF4PJ
 Mathew Smith/KQ4RQE
 Rita Van Trump/KC4YJM
 Roger Zubarik/KJ4LYY

Volunteer Examiner Report

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

The Orlando Amateur Radio Club VE Team congratulates the
 Those individuals who earned new or upgrades to their amateur
 radio licenses during HamCation[®] 2025:



102 Applicants Tested; 67 Applicants Passed

EXTRA CLASS

Kenneth Clink/W2KAC
 Armando Escalante/K9AIE
 Melissa Frank/KO4EZX
 Peter McCauley/KQ4NOF
 Brain Rieker**
 Thomas Jordan/KQ4ZEF

James Cross/KD2RJJ
 Richard Evans**
 Arthur Howell/KQ4OCX
 John Norman/KQ4BFO
 Joseph Danet/KQ4UVP
 John Richardson/KE4SZT

Mike Egan/KF0QFQ
 Allan Frank/KO4EZW
 Jayme Mainor/WD4JMM
 Timm Probus/KI4QBQ
 Raymond Edenfield/KQ4ZVA

GENERAL CLASS**

Gregory Bevard/W3AMP
 Kevin Hulse/KC1WAX
 Gary O'Reilly/N3OUS
 Kayla Clink/KE2CRF

David Brain/KR4BDF
 Kevin Kemp/KB8WPD
 Paul White/KC2MZC
 Michael Cotterman

Michael Hoffman/KD9ZTP
 Darryl Malcomb/KN4PSI
 Kenneth Bass/N4KGB
 William Forbush/N8EMS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Noah Gadelrab | Boyd Glover/KQ4ZPA | Daniel Irick |
| James Irizarry/KR4AOX | Christopher Kampe/KQ4EHW | Larry Lambert/KQ4ZZM |
| Jerrad Monagan/KQ4WTT | Dale Osterndorf/KQ4OUN | James Sims/N0OZG |
| Deerick Skouby | Robert Walk/KA4UQU | Noah Wilfond/KQ4OSA |
| Leslee Rexroad-Bickford/KO4JRN | | |

TECHNICIAN CLASS **

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| John Couture Sr | Martin Ingoldsby | David Lehman |
| Perry Mason | John Peters | Ryan Richards |
| Mitchell Spring | John Syren | Jay Wagner |
| Richard Wallace | Jay White II | David Aronowitz |
| Jaden Erickson | Nicholas Jansen | Zachary Joswick |
| Christopher Snyder | Kathy Toenyan | Ryan Vinton |
| Cody Zeigler | | |

* 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 | AK4MM Val Jacyno | AC3EA George Bradshaw | AC4JL Jim Lowe |
| AJ4HP Olon Henderson | K2EJ Steven Fook | K3OCM Kim Wells | K4CSI Lisa Santore |
| KA4KBX Gary Pike | KD4PCU Anna Pike | KE8TEY Stephen Gallagher | KF4DGJ Robert Mott |
| KJ4AXF Justin Pike | KK1B Hal Prosser | KT3S Den Ardinger | N1UVO Bob Fauci |
| N2KIQ Paul Kronenwetter | N4NG David Templeton | N4PTM Al Hudson | N4TIP Mike Schneider |
| N4UMB Joseph Patti | NZ1I Kevin Gilot | W4RSR Randy Richardson | W4VBK Rodney Cavin |
| W9TAX David Corral | WY1E Michael Kooiman | K4ERN John Shannon | W4CC Jim Hoge |
| ND1C Jim Santore | KE8FMJ Elizabeth Klinc | N2YNV Angel Hernandez | N8ADO Bob Baker |

OARC Meetings and Events 2025

Important Meeting Information

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| March 5, Wednesday | <p>License Exams 5:30pm Meeting 7:30pm at the Beardall Senior Center Program: HamCation® 2025 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: ARRL Field Day</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>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 | 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 |
| December 6, Saturday | Holiday Party |

Special Event Station Running on March 8: Florida Becomes a State

(By Joe Marsh, KQ4AID, Board of Directors - LMARS)
jhmarshfla@gmail.com 407-454-1520

Come Have Fun With Us! LMARS will once again be hosting a Special Event Station Celebrating Florida Statehood.

As Florida commemorates its statehood anniversary, March 3, 1845, LMARS, Lake Monroe Amateur Radio Society, will come together to celebrate this significant milestone.

We will operate under the Special Event call sign of **W4F**. We will operate SSB voice, CW, and FT8.

Date & Time: March 8, 2025 // 9.00am - 5.00pm...

This event is open to all. If you're a Technician level operator you can operate with a partner who is a General or higher... OR... You must operate within your license privileges. If you want to partner with someone let Joe, KQ4AID, know.

Basic details are as follows:

SSB Voice will operate out of the Winter Springs Ham Radio Outlet (HRO). We will be using the new 200w ICOM 7760 radio and HROs multiband vertical. Since we will be in the store, space will be limited, and you must register. They will be open for business, and we have to be respectful of that. We will have 3 operators inside and Joe, KQ4AID. We will operate under 2-hour blocks and rotate what we are doing between the 3 operators. We will have one participant operating on the radio, we will have one participant logging, and one participant will be observing. Others will be able to come in as space allows and see the action first hand.

We will set up a hospitality canopy in the parking lot for those who want to stop by and hang out and listen to the action under the canopy shade. We will have a radio set up so you can hear what's going on. There will be drinks (water, soda, Gatorade) and light snacks.

SSB operating frequencies will be based on band conditions and QRM but will start as follows... 20m: 14.255 // 15m: 21.335 // 10m: 28.360 (+/- QRM). Note: If bands are cooperating, we will operate on 10m from 1500z until 1700z.

CW & FT8 stations will operate at the participants' home using a logging program to keep your contacts. We need the logs ASAP because those we contact will get a Special Event Certificate.

CW Operating Bands & Frequencies (based on band conditions & QRM) : 20m: 14.035 - 14.060 // 15m: 21.050 - 21.100 // 10m: 28.050 - 28.150 (+/- QRM)

FT8 Operating Bands & Frequencies : 20m: 14.074 // 15m: 21.074 // 10m: 28.074

Training the Next Generation of Net Controllers

(The ARRL Letter for February 6, 2025)

Amateur radio operators are known for their desire and unique ability to provide public service through communications. Whether activated for a severe weather event or a local event such as a marathon or bike ride, the utility value and versatility of the Amateur Radio Service is enjoyed by communities around the country. One critical aspect of coordinating the communications is the role of net controller. These key volunteers bring order to chaos and flow to information. It is a specialized skill that requires development, practice, and training.



A capacity crowd fills the training room at Newington VFD Company #1. [Sierra Harrop, W5DX, photos]

On February 1, [Connecticut volunteers](#) in the [Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES®\)](#) held a training session. The session drew dozens of radio amateurs from around the state to a packed room inside the Newington Volunteer Fire Department. The half-day course, led by ARRL Connecticut Section Manager Douglas Sharafanowich, WA1SFH, was dynamic and participatory.

Georg Papp, K1YBO, is a controller and Assistant Net Manager for the Western Connecticut (WESCONN) Traffic Net, a part of the [ARRL® National Traffic System® \(NTS®\)](#). It serves to flow messages into, out of, and throughout the state and to serve as a training net. He was excited to see the high number of attendees. “We always encourage new people to step up to volunteer for the net, and this helps provide a pathway for them,” he said.

In the training, Sharafanowich highlighted examples of needing a robust group of trained Net Control Station (NCS) operators. “When a ‘Black Sky’ event takes place, it is rarely limited to an 8-hour shift. We will need trained NCS operators not only to provide for initial shift coverage, but also, we will need relief NCS operators to cover following shifts,” he said.

If you’d like to get involved as a net control station, talk with your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or District Emergency Coordinator to express interest. You may also find NTS net resources in your area at nts2.arrl.org.



ARRL Connecticut Section Manager Douglas Sharafanowich, WA1SFH, served as an ARES District Emergency Coordinator for 13 years before being elected SM. He relies on that experience to pass along skills to new net control trainees.

Hurricane Watch Net Turning 60, Seeking Net Control Operators

(The ARRL Letter for February 6, 2025)

The [Hurricane Watch Net](#) (HWN), founded on Labor Day weekend 1965, is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2025. The net, known for relaying surface observations into the National Hurricane Center, is also seeking volunteers to serve as net control operators.

Net Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, reports HWN is preparing for what could be, yet again, an above-average hurricane season and that the net needs more amateur radio operators to help.



"We are starting early this year in preparations and looking to add more net control stations to our roster," said Graves. "We are looking for dedicated new members willing to train to become net control operators (NCOs). While being bilingual is not a requirement, being fluent in Spanish and English or French/Creole and English is a plus."



If you are interested in training to become a net control operator for the Hurricane Watch Net, please visit the net control information page, hwn.org/about-us/ncs_info.html.

Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act Re-Introduced

(The ARRL Letter for February 13, 2025)

Legislation Will Increase Communication Options During Natural Disasters

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Representatives August Pfluger, R-Tex., and Joe Courtney, D-Conn. announced their joint re-introduction of legislation in the Senate and House to restore the right to Amateur Radio operators to install the antennas necessary to serve their communities.



Homeowner association rules often prevent Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their homes even though Amateur Radio has proven to be essential in emergencies and natural disasters such as hurricanes when other means of communication fail. [CONTINUED ON ARRL NEWS](#)

RigExpert's Administrative Office Destroyed in Russian Missile Attack — Production Remains Intact

(The ARRL Letter for February 13, 2025)

On February 12, 2025, RigExpert's administrative office, in Kyiv, Ukraine, was destroyed by a Russian ballistic missile. All employees are reported to be safe.

RigExpert is a leading manufacturer of antenna and cable analyzers and officials said they are committed to restoring operations as soon as possible.

"Our top priority is the safety of our team and the continuity of our operations," said Ashot Andeev, Chief Executive Officer. "While our administrative office is

in ruins, our production facilities survived, allowing us to continue serving our customers and partners.”

The company is working to minimize delays and fulfill its commitments while maintaining customer support operations.

Grant will Help Young Amateur Radio Operators Become Contesters

(The ARRL Letter for February 13, 2025)

A \$10,000 grant to the University of Scranton, from the [Frankford Radio Club](#) (FRC) in Pennsylvania, will support the development of a contest dashboard that will leverage the popularity of amateur radio operator contests to benefit science, technology, students and [Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation](#) (HamSCI) community members.

Through the grant, a team of university students, faculty, and FRC members, along HamSCI community members, will collaborate to develop a real-time Contesting/DXing Dashboard for the HamSCI Personal Space Weather Station (PSWS). The PSWS is a modular, ground-based system that measures space weather impacts on the Earth’s ionosphere.



University of Scranton students and faculty member at last week’s DXing contest: Left-to-right: Rebecca Potter, KE3EBI; Dr. Christine Zakzewski, KE2FDW; Nina Tormann; Gerard Piccini KD2ZHK, Owen Ruzanski, KD3ALD, and Matthew Eble, KB3VAV.

[Photo courtesy of Nathaniel Frissell, Ph.D, W2NAF]

The grant will fund Scranton

University student researcher, Owen Ruzanski, KD3ALD, a first-year computer engineering major, for the summer and fall 2025 semesters to help develop the contest dashboard and is expected to conclude in the spring semester of 2026.

University of Scranton physics professor Nathaniel Frissell, Ph.D, W2NAF, said through the project, he hopes the university’s W3USR Amateur Radio Club members, present and future, will become active radio contesters.

“We are already ahead of schedule for this project,” said Dr. Frissell. “This past weekend we hosted students from W3USR and the Frankford Radio Club to take part in a little contesting. We made over 400 QSOs worth over 250,000 contest points.”

Ray Sokola, K9RS, past president the Frankford Radio Club, said that amateur radio contesters are one of the most enthusiastic subset of ham radio operators, and participants span a range of ages from teenagers to over 90.

DX Opportunities Abound Around ARRL International DX Contest

(The ARRL Letter for February 20, 2025)

With Solar Cycle 25 still at peak conditions, and several popular contests this time of year, there have been some interesting, if not totally rare, DX opportunities on the HF bands. Spots have been flying on DX club email reflectors this week. VK9XU on Christmas Island, V73WW on Marshall Island, 5N9DTG in Nigeria, KH7AL/KH9 on Wake Island, and 7Q2MM in Malawi have all been noted, among many others.

The featured DXpedition timeline on DX-World.net shows a number of interesting opportunities to add to the logbook totals in the next several weeks. A full slate of operators is fanned out around the world for the [ARRL International DX Contest](#). The CW portion was this past weekend, and the phone weekend starts March 1 at 0000z.

“Getting on the air and being familiar with current propagation conditions is a great way to prepare for contests,” said ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE. Contest activity is on an upward trend with the peaking solar cycle. Bourque hopes more entrants brings an even higher level of excitement to the contest. “Last year,” he noted, “we saw a record number of logs submitted. I hope even more operators participate this year. You don’t have to be a big gun to be part of it. Everyone is welcome, hopefully the solar cycle will give even modest stations like mine access to a global playing field.”

YLRL Scholarships Available for Students

(The ARRL Letter for February 20, 2025)

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) has announced its Memorial Scholarship program for 2025. The scholarship program is aimed at female amateur radio operators studying radio, communications, electronics or amateur radio related arts and sciences.

There are three Memorial Scholarship award categories:

- **The Ethel Smith, K4LMB, Memorial Scholarship — \$2,500 award**
- **The Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Memorial Scholarship — \$2,500 award**
- **The Martha “Marte” Wessel, KØEPE, Memorial Scholarship — \$1,500 award**



“YLRL is committed to investing in women in amateur radio, and we believe that every act of volunteerism through amateur radio, even a small one, helps turn the world into a better place,” said Vicki Zumwalt, N6KLS, President of YLRL. “We hope that our scholarships will not only encourage students to learn more about science,

technology, and engineering but also inspire them to take pride in being an amateur radio operator and to encourage others to do so as well.”

The YLRL believes that education in the fields of radio, communications, electronics, and amateur-related arts and sciences will play an important role in shaping the world’s future. Through these memorial scholarships, YLRL hopes to encourage female students to learn more about amateur radio.

To qualify, students must be female, have an amateur radio license, meet the requirements listed on the [YLRL website](#) and apply using the [online application](#). Applications are due by April 30, 2025. Winners will be announced in July 2025.

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) is an international non-profit organization of female amateur radio enthusiasts. It was founded in 1939 and is the longest-running YL club in the world.

High School and a Sci-Fi Movie Spark Interest in Amateur Radio

(The ARRL Letter for February 20, 2025)

Steve Schickel was a young high school student in the late '80s and was introduced to amateur radio through his electronics classes. He also spent time working at a local RadioShack and watching science fiction movies at a nearby theater in his hometown of Pensacola, Florida.

Amateur radio’s next biggest influence on Steve came in 1997, on opening night of the movie “[Contact](#),” about a scientist who finds evidence of extraterrestrial life and is chosen to make first contact.

“I remember the entire theater erupted when, in the opening scene, amateur radio operator K4WLD responded to a call from W9GFO and stated his location was Pensacola,” said Schickel. “It sounded like the home team had scored in overtime to win the game; it was so loud!

Fast-forward to November 2024. Schickel passed the exam for his Technician license and was assigned KQ4YXP on November 11. Then he passed his General license exam and on November 29 changed his callsign to KQ4ZDR and then again to KZ4OW. After a month of study, he passed his Extra Class license exam. But there was still something missing from his newfound amateur radio hobby.

“To celebrate, I started researching vanity call signs in order to try and reward myself with a 1x2 call sign. I researched everything that had become available, and I was just about to file my application with the FCC with a list of about a dozen 1x2 calls

when I paused and wondered if anybody actually had the call sign K4WLD from the movie.”

It turned out K4WLD had just fallen out of a two-year grace period hold a couple weeks prior and was now available. Schickel submitted his vanity application and on January 11, 2025, was assigned the new call of K4WLD.

“I can proudly say that K4WLD was awarded to me in January 2025, and I still live in Pensacola! Now, life is imitating art,” Schickel concluded, “and K4WLD has come home to Pensacola in real life ... just like in the movie.”

All well and good except for one small detail. Most of his equipment has been on back order for several months! Schickel hopes to make his first “contact” in a few weeks. He is also a proud new ARRL member!

Diet and Exercise Make for an Effective Communicator

(The ARES Letter for February 19, 2025)

As emergency communicators, our radio operating is usually done sitting down. However, getting to and from deployment sites, setting up and breaking down equipment and operating over long periods of time require some level of fitness, strength and endurance.

At [LAXNORTHEAST](#), we want our operators to be well. We therefore recommend consulting with your healthcare provider before engaging in any exercise regime. The suggestions below are intended for you to become better informed about fitness for the 50+ community and to get the conversation started. Start light and slow and build from there. And if you are thinking, "I am too weak (or old) to start working out," then check out these [6 Golden Rules for Exercise 55+](#) to become inspired. Then read on. There are three main areas to consider: strength, cardio, and diet.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity throughout the week, at least 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity physical activity, or an equivalent combination of moderate and vigorous-intensity activity.

The good news is that research indicates that the effects are similar regardless of whether you are a weekend warrior or spread out your activity during the week. As you consider any workout regime, please learn to engage your core first (Squat University shows you how to brace your core [here](#)).

Building strength improves your ability to do daily tasks. It also improves your cardiovascular health and helps strengthen your bones.

- Current research indicates that two 20-minute strength sessions a week are a great place to start.
- Only use weights or resistance bands that you are comfortable with.
- Whether you do many repeats with light resistance or few repeats with heavier resistance is a matter of personal preference.
- It is perfectly okay to start without any weights and resistance bands and just do the exercises!
- It is a good idea to alternate between lower and upper body exercises during a set
- Work until your muscles develop a working ache, i.e. they begin to feel fatigued. For most people that means three sets of 8 - 15 repetitions for a given exercise. If that begins to feel easy, increase the resistance with weights or resistance bands.
- Three sets of 4 - 6 exercises are a good place to start.

Cardio

Developing good cardio habits can improve both your heart health and your mental health. Many of us are lucky to live in areas where we can take a walk around the neighborhood. Zone 2 walks are great for fat loss. For most people, Zone 2 corresponds to 60-70% of their maximum heart rate. Alternate Zone 2 walks with brisk walks for a balanced cardio workout.

Diet

Eating a balanced diet is important for our mood, health, and muscle growth. Ideally, discuss your goals with a licensed dietician and/or your medical care provider. Here are a couple of points to get the conversations started: focus on the quality of your food; prioritize protein for muscle growth; add more plants and fiber to your diet. Pulses (dried edible seeds of plants in the legume family) are a great source of protein and fiber; oats make for a satisfying breakfast, for example. Monitor your sugar intake; consider adding one or two fasting days to your week. During fast days, replace either breakfast or lunch with water, tea or soup. Consider replacing a meal with a half hour or hour walk. Drink more water and decaffeinated tea than you think you need and match your energy needs with your consumption, especially when working out. Focus on how you feel. If you need to measure, then measure your waistline rather than your weight. Get your annual medical checkup.

Goals

Remember that the goals are to be "fit to fight" and to lead a self-determined life for as long as possible. That way you can stay active in and for the community!—[Oliver Dully, K6OLI](#), District Emergency Coordinator, [ARES LAX Northeast District](#).

ARRL's "On the Air Live" Continues to Grow

(The ARRL Letter for February 27, 2025)

ARRL is equipping the next generation of radio amateurs with the knowledge to get active on the air. "On the Air Live" is a monthly interactive webinar series that does deep-dives into topics aimed at the new and intermediate ham. It complements material found in *On the Air* magazine. February's event had nearly 130 people in attendance.

The events are hosted by ARRL Education Specialist Wayne Greene, KB4SDF. "OTA Live" has seen rapid growth and good engagement in the two months it has been going. "The most recent 'On the Air Live' covered programming a handheld radio, and we got a lot of good questions," said Greene. "Being an interactive webinar, we have the opportunity to spend time discussing things on which members need more information."

"On the Air Live" is accessed through the ARRL Learning Center at learn.arrl.org. It is a benefit of ARRL membership, and members must be logged into the web site to access it for live or archived sessions.

The next "On the Air Live" is Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 8:00 PM Eastern. It will focus on advanced functions of handheld radios, including getting them on digital modes. "We're going to take the handheld radio and expand its capability by attaching it to a soundcard," said Greene. Those who attend will learn how to use APRS and VARA (including Winlink).

"We had a great time with members on the last one, and I hope more people will join us in March," said Greene.

Amateur Radio in the News

(The ARRL Letter for February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025)

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

["Amateur radio hobbyists tune in at winter field day"](#) / The Clark Fork Valley Press & Mineral Independent (Montana) January 29, 2025 -- *The Clark Fork Valley Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Kent ham radio club tests emergency communications skills"](#) / Kent County News (Maryland) January 30, 2025 -- *The Kent Amateur Radio Society is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Ham radio club holds winter field day"](#) / North Fort Meyers Neighbor (Florida) February 4, 2025 -- The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club.

["Los Alamos Amateur Radio Club To Meet Feb. 14"](#) / Los Alamos Reporter (New Mexico) February 8, 2025 -- *The Los Alamos Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Pfluger bill would prevent HOAs from banning amateur radio antennas"](#) / Midland Reporter-Telegram (Texas) February 11, 2025 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act.

["Amateur radio for fun and public service"](#) / The Goldendale Sentinel (Washington) February 12, 2025 -- The Klickitat County Amateur Radio Emergency Services Group® (ARES®).

["The astronaut said what?! You just had to be there, like these 10 students in Clifton"](#) / [northjersey.com](#) February 14, 2025 -- *Heart of ARC and the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club, an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Brownies reach out across the Radio Waves"](#) / MSN (Great Britain) February 8, 2025 -- The Crawley Amateur Radio Club and Radio Society of Great Britain.

["Ham radio symposium set for April"](#) / The Ellsworth American (Maine) February 19, 2025 -- The Ellsworth Amateur Wireless Association.

["Bryan Man Looking To The Future With New State Amateur Radio Role"](#) / The Village Reporter (Ohio) February 24, 2025 -- *The Williams County Amateur Radio Association is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*



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 reappportioned 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 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** _____

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