

The M O D U L A T O R



Club
W4LX
Call

The NEWS and VIEWS of
The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 061183
Fort Myers, Fl. 33906

Visit our web site at WWW.FMARC.NET

The FMARC meets the last Tuesday of every month at 7:15pm

The President's Message

Well it is time to say goodbye to our winter visitors and to those who helped out a big thanks To those that visited come on back next year. Hamfest was a success, skills day and also the Edison birthday.

We have commitments to start a fox hunt early in the next season, while over the summer we will be completing the 501c3 processes. It looks like we will be putting the club on solid footing for the future.

And the planning will now start for the next event FIELD DAY. Looking for band captains, and this year we will need computers to loan laptops preferred, the old machines just won't do it anymore. They do not store in the shack. Unfortunately with budget cuts we will not have the sheriff van. So get your ideas together for the planing. I plan to have a 1 station with a sign up for those who cannot do the 24 hrs but want to participate sign up for an hour or 2 then someone else next. It will be a good way to get a shot at the event without a major time commitment.

Joseph Ryan N3NAI

F.M.A.R.C. INFORMATION:

The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc., is a non-profit corporation of both Federal Communication Commission and internationally licensed radio operators who volunteer themselves and their communications equipment in support of emergency and community services.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President,	Joe Ryan
(239) 458-9721	N3NAI
Vice President,	Mike Meehan
(239) 283-4026	KI4PTZ
Secretary,	Susan Sherman
(239 772 4274)	KI4ZXL
Treasurer,	Norma Remson
(239) 543-5487	KI4JFN
Director,	Len Foster
(239) 989-6186	VA3LGF
Director,	Larry Zimmer
(239) 282 1526	W4LWZ

COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS:

John Anderson, KE0TG,	Membership
Joyce Botchford, KJ4BEI,	Mail Manager
Mike Branda, K4HN,	VE Coordinator
"Butch" Brown, KE4CB,	The Swap Shop
Rich Greenberg, N6LRT	The Modulator
Don Marzonie, KF4PHB,	Property Control
Mike Meehan, KI4PZT,	Webmaster
Jim Niccum, AF4YH,	Public Relations
Bill Pavela, KD4VDS,	Interference
David Penezic, WA4GUK,	A.L.E.R.T.
Edward Radke, K9GTZ,	Greeter
Joe Ryan, N3NAI,	Scheduled Contests
Susan Sherman, KI4ZXL	Social Activity
Open	Program
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ,	Annual Hamfest
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ,	Education
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ,	W4LX Trustee

The club's web site can be found at:

<http://www.fmarc.net>

A list of local repeaters can be found at:

http://www.fmarc.net/local_repeater.htm

A.L.E.R.T.

The All Lee Emergency Response Team (A.L.E.R.T.) is looking for volunteer licensed amateur operators. We need volunteers to man the shelters, hospitals, fire and police departments and other critical facilities during and after severe storms. If you would like to provide a much needed service to your community, Call Dave Penezic, WA4GUK, R.A.C.E.S. Officer at: Phone: (239) 368-2552 Email: wa4guk@arrl.net

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

REGULAR CLUB MEETING & PROGRAM:

is the "last" Tuesday of each month. Membership, friends and interested persons meet at the Riverside Community Center (3061 E Riverside Dr Fort Myers, FL 33916 239-461-3788) at **7:15 PM** for reports from all Committee Chair Persons, announcements of present and future activity, old business issues, any new business for the Club and a program and/or speaker for the meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING is the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Araba Shrine on Hanson Street in Fort Myers at **7:30 PM**. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss plans and issues for the club. Members are encouraged to attend.

THE GULF COAST AREA REPEATER CLUB membership also meets at the Riverside Community Center (3061 E Riverside Dr Fort Myers, FL 33916 239-461-3788). The club's board of directors meet on the **FIRST** Thursday of "odd" months at **7:30 PM** for conducting business and discussing issues for the club. The regular meeting of the membership and friends is on the **FIRST** Thursday of "even" months at **7:30 PM**.

The SWAP SHOP gathering of Hams and friends is on the **2nd & last** Saturdays at **noon** at the Club House area in Waterway Park Estates at 5820 Poetry Lane in North Fort Myers. Sell, Swap and Bargain.

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS conduct testing for Amateur Radio FCC License application qualifications on the **2nd Thursday** at **6:30 PM** at the Emergency Operations Center on Ortiz Avenue.

THE MODULATOR

The Modulator is a organization publication for the purpose of informing members of F.M.A.R.C. of educational and training opportunities, club events, relevant news articles and a monthly calendar of daily activities, meetings and dates. All inquiries can be made to F.M.A.R.C., Inc. at P.O. Box 061183, Fort Myers, FL 33906

Editor & Publisher: Rich Greenberg, N6LRT.
(239) 543 1353, 1705 Coral Way, North Fort Myers, Florida, 33917, e-mail: modulator@richgr.users.panix.com.

Reporter: Darrell Phillips, N4OKS, 1719 NW 21st Street, Cape Coral, FL, 33993. (239) 282 1526, e-mail: N4OKS@arrl.net, FAX: (239) 282 1536.

A second reporter slot is open.

The deadline for news and articles is the 15th of the month to the Reporters.

Modulator Submissions of articles and ads should be sent as early as possible by email to modulator@richgr.users.panix.com.

IMPORTANT: To avoid my spam trap, the subject **MUST** start with [**Modulator**] including the square brackets or it may be missed. Plain text is preferred and please **DON'T** send all upper case. Call me at 239 543 1353 if you have any questions or problems submitting an item. Ads are free to members and are accepted on a space available basis and may be edited for clarity or space.

Every member of F.M.A.R.C., not just the reporters, are invited to submit articles for the Modulator.

FMARC "LUNCH BUNCH"

Buddy Freddy's
NW Corner of Bus 41 and Pine Island Rd
North Ft. Myers
Every Thursday, 11:30am

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with fellow Hams, share a meal and camaraderie. Bring a guest! Bring a Friend! Bring a Radio! It's also a great way to introduce individuals to the hobby who may be interested in becoming a Ham. See you there!!

Questions? Contact Social Activities Chairperson:
Susan Sherman, KI4ZXL,
smnp55@embarqmail.com or 239-772-4274.

New Improved Modulator

Welcome to the new, improved low suds Modulator. The main changes are the top half of the front page which is much less fuzzy and has some updated images. On the down side, the previous column has been squished a bit to fit.

MARCH GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Call to order 7:15pm. Pledge of allegiance. Silent Keys: W2NYU, Arnold H Rand. K3KT, Horace Carter (August 2008). Sick: none. February Minutes approved without changes. TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion (Mike Branda) and second (Willis) to place a portion of treasury funds in a 6 month CD. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Education: 8 students in Tech class will be finished next week. Planning for a general class in June. Hamfest: no news. Programs: need a chairperson. Membership: no news. Modulator: Rich is cleaning up the fonts for easier reading. Social: Skills day is ready to go. Hoping for a good turn out and good weather. Interference: not present. ALERT: Dave announced that due to budget constraints EOC will no longer provide/rent generators during disasters. Operators will be responsible for supplying their own power at shelters where there are no generators. More Skywarn classes will be offered in Bonita Springs and Sanibel. Call EOC for locations. EOC will have table top exercises on June 1 & 2. Next in-person ALERT meeting is May 21, 7:30pm at EOC. VE Testing: Mike discussed joining Laurel group for VE testing. Cost to FMARC is \$75/year to cover the cost of printing the tests and postage. The 2009 fee is already covered with a grant. Advantage to FMARC is there is no fee to take the test. This may attract more people to take the test and in turn, may join the club. Motion (Larry) and second (Leon) for FMARC to join the Laurel group. Motion carried with 1 dissenting vote. Special Events: Stella and helpers are in the process of mailing out the certificates and QSL cards. Website: Mike will be posting the bylaws. Field Day: Will be at North Ft. Myers Park same as last

year. Joe is gathering info for t-shirts and pins. Save the dates: June 27 & 28.

OLD BUSINESS: 501c3: Larry gave a recap of the purpose and benefits of applying for 501c3 charitable organization status with the IRS. Discussion and questions followed. WA4GUK moved the 501c3 committee move forward and proceed with obtaining 501c3 status for the club. Votes: Yeas: 31, Nays: 2. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: (1) May 9th, Boy Scout Jamboree at Lakes Park. Looking for 4 volunteers. See Dave, WA4GUK. (2) Joe announced there is some discussion of merging FMARC with GCARC. This is in the exploratory phase only. More information is forthcoming. (3) The club roster is nearly done. Members who are able to receive a copy via email, please email Joe, pres@fmarc.net. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Submitted by KI4ZXL, secretary

BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 8, 2009

Call to order at 7:30pm. Roll: KI4ZXL, N3NAI, KI4JFN, KI4PTZ, W4LWZ, N4OKS, N6LRT, K9GZT, KI4JFO, KI4GED, AE4DP, WA4DQE, and WB3UUJ. Minutes from last meeting accepted without changes. Treasurer's Report: 6 month CD purchased at Bank of America. There are no outstanding bills. Field Day is the only major expense coming up. Norma provided a print out of the accounts to board members.

OLD BUSINESS: Website - Mike is working on a member's only site. 501c3: Larry reported the committee has all the papers from the Ozaukee Club (thank you to Leon). Committee will schedule another meeting to begin the process of application. Field Day - Joe has prices for t-shirts and will bring to next membership meeting. There is lots of food left over from Hamfest that can be used for Field Day.

NEW BUSINESS: Annual Report to State of Florida - Due May 1. Norma and Joe are tending this task. GE Sammons withdrew his name as registered agent. Mike Meehan volunteered to be the listed registered agent. Article of incorporation will be filed as is for now. They will be amended in

the future to meet 501c3 requirements and then be refilled. Publicity - FMARC Meetings are listed on Craig's List for the next 6 months. There are 2 local community websites and newsletters where we can be listed too. Susan will take care of this. Suggestion from Ed (general member in attendance) that club purchase new vinyl banners as the 2 we have are ragged and aged. Ed also asked that the club consider sponsoring 2 Fox Hunts for next season. Larry suggested a skills day specifically for building antennas and attenuators for fox hunting. This could be held prior to the first fox hunt. Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

Submitted by KI4ZXL, secretary

ROSTERS

New updated rosters are ready. E-mailing preferred. Send a request to me at pres@fmarc.net and I will send you a PDF file, an excel spreadsheet or both.

Joseph Ryan N3NAI

Field Day shirts

We will take orders for field day pins and shirts either fd or club as decided at the April meeting. if we get our own they will be 10 to 15 dollars depending on quantity and type and pins will be \$5. prepaid,

contact Joseph Ryan
pres@fmarc.net
239 459-9721

You Might be Addicted to Ham Radio if:

Submitted by Edward Radke
Part 3 of 3

39. You have Ham radio magazines in the bathroom.
40. When your doorbell rings, you immediately shut down the amplifier.
41. Fermentation never enters your mind when "homebrew" is mentioned.
42. Instead of just saying no, you have said "negative".

43. You have used a person's name to indicate acknowledgment.
44. You become impatient waiting for the latest AES catalog to arrive.
45. You have found yourself whistling "CQ" using Morse code.
46. You always schedule the third weekend in May for vacation.
47. You walk carefully in your back yard to avoid being close lined.
48. You have deep anxiety or panic attacks during high winds or heavy ice.!
49. You and the FedEx/UPS men are on a first name basis.
50. You really start to miss people that you've never seen.
51. Your exercise machine is a Morse code keyer.
52. You walk through the plumbing section at the hardware store and see antenna parts.
53. Your neighbors thought you were nuts when you ripped up your lawn to bury chicken wire.
54. Your next door neighbor thinks that your wife is a widow.
55. Your wife has delivered meals to your Ham shack.
56. If you sold all your Ham radio equipment, you could pay off your mortgage.

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ICQ Podcast

[Editors note: Received in email with a request to put in the Modulator. Presented for information only, not sponsored or endorsed by F.M.A.R.C.]

ICQ Amateur / Ham Radio Podcast comes of age with 21st Episode. Launched in July 2008, the ICQ Amateur / Ham Radio Podcast provides a mixture of news, views, training, technical reviews and information for all levels around the world. This month, April 2009, the ICQ Podcast came of age with the publication of our 21st episode.

Previous episodes have included roundtable discussions with new entrants to the hobby and seasoned pros discussing the hobby. Technical reviews have covered many topics including aerials, modifications and products reviews, and interviews with Hams advising their latest innovations.

The ICQ Amateur / Ham Radio Podcast is a fortnightly radio type show, downloadable from the internet. Episodes can either be downloaded direct from the website <[Http://www.icqpodcast.com](http://www.icqpodcast.com)> or by subscribing to iTunes at:

<<http://phobos.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=284922000>>. By registering with the ICQ Podcast website, an email will be sent to you with a direct link to download the latest episodes. Episodes can be played back either from the computer or by loading the mp3 file onto an mp3 player.

The ICQ Podcast is a podcast "for Amateur's by Amateur's" and we would be very interested to hear for anyone who would like to be involved. If you would like to contact us, please email <info@icqpodcast.com> We hope you enjoy the ICQ Podcast.

Kind regards
Martin Butler (M1MRB)
Colin Butler (M6BOY)

FLORIDA QSO PARTY

The Fl QSO party is April 25 & 26. George Tomlinson AA4GT offers to someone who would like to share his shack for the contest to contact him in Naples at aa4gt@comcast.net or 239 774 1756 for more info see: <http://www.floridaqso party.org/>

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF ELECTRICAL SAFETY

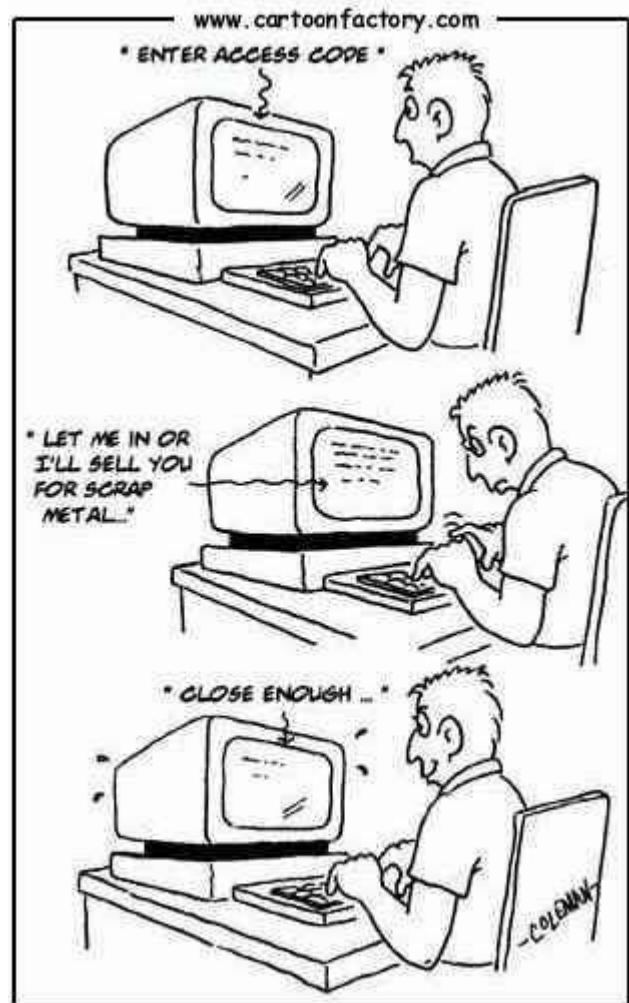
1. BEWARE of the lightning that lurks in the undischarged capacitor lest it cause thee to be bounded upon thy backsides in a most ungentlemanly manner.
2. CAUSE THOU the switch that supplies large quantities of juice to be opened and thus tagged, so that thy days may be long on earth.
3. PROVE TO THYSELF that all circuits that radiate and upon which thou workest are grounded, lest they lift thee to a high-frequency potential and cause thee to radiate also.
4. TAKE CARE that thou use the proper method when thou takest the measure of high voltage, that it not incinerate both thee and the meter; for verily, though thou hast no account number and canst be easily replaced, the meter does have such and shall bring great woe upon the Purchasing Department.
5. TARRY NOT amongst those who engage in intentional shocks, for they are surely nonbelievers and not long for this world.
6. TAKE CARE thou tamper not with interlocks and safety devices, for this shall incur the wrath of the seniors, and unleash the fury of the safety engineer down upon thy head and shoulders.
7. WORK NOT with energized equipment; for if thou dost, thy buddies will surely be buying beers without thee, and thy space at the bar will be filed by another.
8. VERILY, VERILY, I say unto thee: never service high-voltage equipment alone; for electric cooking is a slothful process and thou mightest sizzle in thine own fat for hours before thy Maker seeth fit to end thy misery and draw thee unto His fold.
9. TRIFLE NOT with radioactive tubes and substance, lest thou commence to glow in the darkness like unto a lightning bug.
10. COMMIT THOU to memory the work of the prophets, which are written in the Instruction Books; they give thee the straight dope and steer thee away from error.

Submitted by: John Sabiston, KR4UO.

Wanted

We have a marine hf vertical antenna that was donated to the club we put it up sat at the swap shop for testing it will work with a tuner and counterpoise. Russ has offered to make the counterpoise, we need something to mount it for a temp setup 2-3ft of galvanized or iron pipe , flange, and a 6ft long piece of 2x10 or 2x12 board we can park a vehicle on one end and the antenna on the other so if anyone has some of the items laying around and would like to donate them please contact a club officer or bring it to the swap shop. The antenna is a 2 piece fiberglass about 27 ft high and disassembled it will fit in the back of a Pu or on a roof rack of a car, SUV etc. and will make for fast setup If you have other ideas on how to make a temp mount for it let me know.

Joseph Ryan, N3NAI



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>3 Round Table 7:30 AM Loggerhead 7:30 PM</p>	<p>4 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00</p>	<p>5 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>6 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM Lee ALERT 7:30 PM</p>	<p>7 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM CC Gabfest 8:00 PM</p> <p>Lunch Brunch 11:30 AM Buddy Freddy's Brunch Pine Island & US 41</p>	<p>8 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>9 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p> <p>FMARC Swap Shop 12:noon - Buy, Sell, Swap, Trade Bargains at Water- way Estates Park, C.C.</p>
<p>10 Round Table 7:30 AM Loggerhead 7:30 PM</p>	<p>11 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>12 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>13 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM Lee ALERT 7:30 PM</p> <p>FMARC Board of Direc- tors, Araba Shirine, 7:30 PM, Hanson St., FM, FL</p>	<p>14 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM CC Gabfest 8:00 PM</p> <p>VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS at EOC building 6:30 PM</p> <p>Lunch Brunch 11:30 AM Buddy Freddy's Brunch. Pine Island & US 41</p>	<p>15 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>16 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>
<p>17 Round Table 7:30 AM Loggerhead 7:30 PM</p>	<p>18 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p> <p>QCWA Luncheon 11:30 AM, Buddy Freddy's Buffet, 60 Pine Island Road, North Fort Myers.</p>	<p>19 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>20 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM Lee ALERT 7:30 PM</p>	<p>21 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM CC Gabfest 8:00 PM</p> <p>Lunch Brunch 11:30 AM Buddy Freddy's Brunch Pine Island & US 41</p>	<p>22 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>23 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p> <p>FMARC Swap Shop 12:noon - Buy, Sell, Swap, Trade Bargains at Water- Way Estates Park, C.C.</p>
<p>24 Round Table 7:30 AM Loggerhead 7:30 PM</p>	<p>25 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>26 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p> <p>FMARC monthly scheduled meeting, 7:15 PM, Riverside Community Center.</p>	<p>27 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM Lee ALERT 7:30 PM</p>	<p>28 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM CC Gabfest 8:00 PM</p> <p>Lunch Brunch 11:30 AM Buddy Freddy's Brunch Pine Island & US 41</p>	<p>29 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>	<p>30 Round Table 7:30 AM SWFT Net 10:00 AM</p>
<p>MAY 2009</p> <p>NETS OF RECORD, Daily & Weekly Round Table (Club news) 147.345 MHz, Daily, 7:30 AM. S.W. Florida Traffic Net, 147.345 & 15.170, Mon-Sat, 10:00 AM Gulf Coast Area Repater Club, 147.345, Mon., 7:30 PM All Lee Emergency Response Team, 146.880, Wed. 7:30 PM Loggerhead, 146.790 MHz, Sunday, 7:30 PM Cape Coral Gabfest, 146.490 MHz, Thursday, 8:00 PM</p>						

★ **MODULATOR** ★

The Fort Myers Amateur
RADIO CLUB Inc.
P.O. Box 061183
Ft. Myers, FL 33906

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