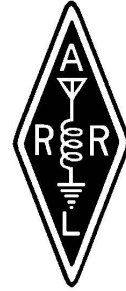


# The M O D U L A T O R



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

Founded 1957  
Visit our web site at [WWW.FMARC.NET](http://WWW.FMARC.NET)

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

## *The President's Message*

Many things coming up in the near future. We need candidates for the board, your nomination for ham of the year, and the Christmas dinner. And as you will read a new EOC/and or EC.

Dave has served for many years now and he needs to pass the torch.

Remember to send your comments about the possible merger and when the ballot arrives please send it back ASAP.

Remember the club is yours the members.

And even better the hamfest season has started and when you go do not forget to spread the word about the FMARC hamfest and most importantly the club itself. Refer to the [www.fmarc.net](http://www.fmarc.net) website.

73,  
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
Larry Stiles, WF4LS,	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, K9GZT,	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](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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

September 29: FMARC General Membership Meeting. Vote to be held on raising membership dues.

October 27: FMARC General Membership Meeting. Presentation of membership emailed opinions on the merger and open forum/discussion of same.

November 24: FMARC General Membership Meeting.

### Have You Considered The Merger?

If you haven't heard by now, there is a proposal to merge FMARC with the Gulf Coast Area Repeater Club. Check the club website front page for the letter that went out to both club memberships in the August Modulator. This is a very critical issue that all members of both clubs need to contemplate. Your opinion counts. September 30th is the deadline to respond via email with your position. All response will be collated and presented at the FMARC membership meeting October 27, 2009. Voting will take place by paper ballot which will be mailed out.

### MINUTES GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AUGUST 25, 2009

Call to order at 7:15pm. Pledge of Allegiance. Silent Keys: N4CRO, Bill Stewart. W4SEN. KB7AHA, Ed McGillvrey. A moment of silence was held in their honor.

Illnesses: AI4OH, Russ Moorman.

Treasurers Report: Copy was available for members review. The CD is earning interest. The money in the CD is earmarked for Hamfest.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VE Testing: More VE's are showing up for testing - Thank you! We are seeing more people coming up from the Naples area to take the tests.

Modulator: Editor position available. Rich will be moving in the future (dates uncertain) and a new editor is needed. Anyone who may be interested, contact Rich. You can start learning the ropes now. Social: Starting to look for places for the Christmas Party. If you have suggestions, contact Susan.

Education: Larry is looking for a new location for the upcoming General Class.

Hamfest: Have applied for ARRL Sanction.  
Programs: We still need a program chairperson to organize speakers for each monthly meeting.  
ARES: no report.  
Publicity: no report.  
OLD BUSINESS: Merger between FMARC and GCARC: compiling responses coming in by email. So far, the response rate is poor.  
Field Day T-shirts - still a few left. See Joe if interested.  
Club House at Waterway Estates Park: Cape Coral Parks and Rec conducted an inspection. There were a number of safety issues to correct. County facility personnel will rewire the ceiling fans. The club has to get rid of the broken, rickety furniture.  
501c3: a work in progress, next meeting is 8/26/09.  
NEW BUSINESS: Updated roster is available for email delivery.  
Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air - 3rd weekend in October. Boy Scout Show at Lakes Park October 10th. FMARC will have a demonstration/information table at this all day event. Need volunteers.  
Dues: A motion was made by KI4PTZ and second by W4LWZ to increase dues to \$20/year beginning January 2010. After discussion, motion was clarified as follows: full membership - \$20/yr, family membership - \$25/yr, associate member (non-licensed) - \$10/yr, family (non-licensed) - \$15. Motion will be published on website and in next Modulator. Motion by WF4LS and second by W4LWZ to continue original motion to September meeting for membership vote. (This is in keeping with FMARC Bylaws that any dues increase will be given 30 days notice to the membership prior to a vote). Motion carried with one dissenting vote.  
Modulator: Motion by W4LWZ, second by WF4LS to publish the Modulator electronically on the website and have available for download. After discussion, motion amended to include: Hard copy can be mailed to members for a subscription fee, the amount to be determined prior to January 1, 2010. The last published mailed copy will be December 2009. Motion carried unanimously.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm for donuts, coffee and fellowship. Next Meeting is September 29, 2009.

## September Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 7:30pm. Attendance: N3NAI, KI4ZXL, KI4PTZ, KI4JFN, W4LWZ, KI4GED, KI4JFO, N6LRT.  
Treasurer's report given. Waterway Estates Club House update - insurance will need to be adjusted but we will be able to keep the club house, rent free.  
Edison Estates Special Event update - Joe's letter was forwarded to Chris Pendelton (CEO of Edison Estates) on August 18. So far there is no response. If FMARC is not granted permission to participate in the Edison event, we will have to search for an alternative.  
New Member Welcome Letter - drafted by Len. The draft was reviewed and corrections submitted. The letter will be given to new club members. The letter will contain information about the club and club activities.  
Hamfest update - January 16, 2010. We have ARRL sanction. Larry will be confirming the reservation with Araba.  
501c3 update - the first draft of revised constitution and bylaws is being reviewed. Still waiting for a copy of the club Articles of Incorporation.  
Next meeting is Sept 17. Discussed getting ready for 2010 - need to form a nominating committee, place Ham of the Year notice in the Modulator and dues notices. Adjourned at 8:20pm.  
Respectfully submitted, KI4ZXL.

## Calendar

Darrell is still feeling "under the weather", so I will be doing the calendar again this month.

Re the calendar:

- 1) Are there any special events in November (or later) that should be in the calendar?
- 2) Are there any regular events that should be added to each month in the calendar?
- 3) Any obsolete listings?
- 4) In the event that Darrell will not be able to pick up the calendar again, is there anyone else that might be interested in doing it? Darrell and I will help you getting it set up.

I have gotten a few updates since last month's Modulator. Any more?

## For Sale:

My mentor John Wesly Boyette ( KB4YCM ) died in a accident on rt 78.

- 1-jrc hf general coverage receiver nrd-525 with manual
- 2-custom built 20 amp 13.8 volt power supply
- 3-pakratt 232
- 4-two Siltronix transceivers , options and manual

My farther Alex w. Sabiston ( WA4DMY ) died in hospice in north Carolina.

- 1-pakratt 232
- 2-complete hal ct 2100 communication terminal, kb2100 key board. Matching h.al printer , and wiring
- 3-12" monochrome character display jb-1201m and manuals.
- 4-Swan 1200-xcygnet linear, manuals, matched set of output tubes
- 5-Swan spare tubes , input modified for new solid state transceivers
- 6-Heathkit ha-202 2-meter fm amplifier
- 7-Murch electronics ut-2000a the ultimate transmatch
- 8-Northern radio co. model n780 automatic antenna coupler
- 9-Three swr and power meters
- 10-Mfj electronic keyer paddle model mfj-422b and power supply
- 11-Mfj desktop microphone model mfj-297 with cable like new
- 12-Panasonic high speed laser fax and copier kx-fl501
- 13-Astron 12vdc power supply 70 amp like new
- 14-50 foot tilt top tower , rotor bearing and rotor mount & winch, already disassembled and ready for pickup.

All prices negotiable  
Contact John at 239 693 0221 for details.  
John Sabiston, KR4VO

## The Healthy Ham

H1N1 Flu. Swine Flu. It is one and the same but the more accurate term is H1N1 flu. There is a great deal of concern about H1N1 flu. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are predicting a worldwide pandemic this winter season of H1N1 flu. H1N1 will be a threat along with the typical seasonal flu we face every year. There will be a vaccine

available for both flu strains. The annual flu vaccine should be available in September. The H1N1 flu vaccine should be available by mid-October. But vaccines are just one method of prevention and control. The most important line of defense in the spread of flu is HUMANS! The prudent Ham stays prepared for emergencies and getting ready for flu season is not much different. So what can you do?

1. Take good care of yourself. Eat well, sleep well, exercise to your tolerance.
  2. Avoid sick people whenever possible. If you know someone who is out in public and is clearly sick with a respiratory infection, do not be afraid to counsel them to STAY HOME. If they need supplies or food, offer to help them by dropping off needed supplies for them. You can just leave it at their front door!
  3. Wash your hands often, especially after you have been in a public area. Viral germs can live for several hours on surfaces. Grocery cart handles, ATM key pads, door handles, public washroom door handles and bathroom surfaces, vinyl upholstered chairs in public waiting rooms are just a few examples of places you may be where germs may linger on surfaces.
  4. Sanitize your work area if you share it with others. Use sanitizing wipes on your computer keyboard and mouse, the key pad, on the copy and fax machine, etc.
  5. Develop the habit of sneezing and coughing into your sleeve or arm instead of your hands. Remember - HANDS are the #1 way germs are spread
  6. Keep your hands away from your face.
  7. If you develop flu symptoms, STAY HOME! Do not venture out or go to work. You should stay home until you are fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of Tylenol or ibuprofen). Contact your health care provider for further medical advice, especially if you have any chronic medical conditions.
- Let's all hope for the best and stay on top of this potential health threat.

KI4ZXL

## ARES News

It is my intention to resign as the EC and RACES officer for Lee County. For months now I have asked for assistance in running the group and had little response.

My wife and I are both retired now and planning to do some traveling. Our Grandchildren are in Virginia and we will be visiting them a lot. We also love cruising and have booked three, and are already planning for next year.

The ALERT group did not have the August meeting because I was out of town. Our November meeting will not be held unless someone steps up to take over. I will be out of the country November and most of December. When we return we will only have time to do laundry, go through the mail and drive up north for Christmas. As you can see I will not have time to manage the ALERT Group.

I have one project that I will complete then I will tender my resignation to the county, our Section Emergency Coordinator and our Section Manager.

73 Dave  
Lee County EC & RACES Officer

## **MORE NOTES FROM THE NORTH**

Even though these early September days can be sometimes warm and sunny, the now cool evenings, nights and mornings remind me that my Michigan summer is soon to end. As I walk along the river near where I live I see the leaves begin to drop, some of them are even beginning to accumulate here and there on the walkway. A hint of autumn is in the air, and the planning for my return to Lee County commences.

But all of this is happening while my apartment-based PSK-31 adventures continue. I'm still on 20M exclusively, with my 20M indoor wire dipole, and a usual output power range of 20-25 watts. My operating techniques have improved, however. I rarely call CQ and I listen (watch the screen) 95% of the time. I search for CQs, realizing that another station listens (watches) more carefully when it is the station actively seeking a QSO. Also, as I read-the-mail, I carefully note the data of any station I might want to contact, and then I tail-end that station when it signs from its current QSO. With this method I'm sure to have the station's data regardless of any QSB or QRM or splatter issues that may arise during my own QSO with the station. And unless it's a station that I really want, I always pick the strongest stations to call. If they're strong on my end, I'm expecting that I'll be stronger on their end as well. As propagation improves, my overall plan is to build other single-band HF

dipoles. 20M is the longest antenna I have the physical space for inside my apartment, but I've heard that both 10M and 17M have regular PSK-31 activity. Those bands may be next for me to explore with PSK.

As I write this on September 9th, I have paper QSL cards in-hand from 31 states. My domestic QSL card return-rate is excellent. I always use SASEs, and I try to write meaningful notes on each card I send. The DX entities I've now worked include Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, Cuba, Canada, Scotland, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Germany, Uruguay, Estonia, Guatemala and the U.S. Virgin Islands. I use direct, bureau and manager QSL paths for DX QSLing, but my actual DX QSL card return-rate will have to be determined over time. I currently have paper QSL cards-in-hand from 7 DX entities. Successful paper-QSLing is not for the faint of heart, it takes much time and effort! But the rewards are sweet! Also, I've joined the European PSK Club, as it seems that having an "EPC" number is important to some PSK stations.

My greatest complaint about some PSK stations is that they set their audio level too high and that they run too much power. This can cause their signals to splatter across band and completely ruin-the-moment for other stations. A simple numerical signal report can't convey this information. A PSK station has to ask directly what its own signal trace looks like on the receiving end, and then make any necessary adjustments.

The most significant ARES activity I've participated in recently was the 33rd Annual Crim Festival of Races on August 22nd here in nearby Flint. I was one of 30+ hams who provided radio communications for an event that this year attracted 13,000+ runners, walkers and wheelers from across the nation and around the world. ARES also provided continual ATV coverage of the race from various points along the race course, channeling the coverage by ATV repeater to the race officials headquartered downtown. Obviously, pre-planning and organization is key to the successful handling an event of this magnitude.

More later!

Tom Root (WB8UJ)  
Flushing, MI

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>October 2009</h1>						
Daily & Weekly Nets of Record: SW FI Traffic Net, 147.345 & 145.170, Mon-Sat 10:00am Gulf Coast Area Repeater Club, 147.345, Mon 7:30pm All Lee Emergency Response Team, 146.880, Wed 7:30pm Loggerhead Net, 146.790, Sunday 7:30pm Cape Coral Gabfest, 146.490, Thursday, 8:00pm Windmill, 28.475usb, Sunday, 9pm.				<b>1</b> GCARC general 7:30pm SWFT net 10:00 am CC gabfest 8:00pm Lunch Bunch 11:30	<b>2</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>3</b> SWFT net 10:00 am
<b>4</b> Loggerhead 7:30pm Windmill, 9pm.	<b>5</b> SWFT net 10:00am GCARC Net 7:30pm	<b>6</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>7</b> SWFT net 10:00 am Lee ALERT 7:30pm	<b>8</b> Volunteer Exams at EOC 8:00pm SWFT net 10:00 am CC gabfest 8:00pm Lunch Bunch 11:30 Buddy Freddys	<b>9</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>10</b> SWFT net 10:00 am Swap Shop Waterway Park Noon
<b>11</b> Loggerhead 7:30pm Windmill, 9pm.	<b>12</b> QCWA lunch 11:30am at Buddy Freddys SWFT net 10:00am GCARC Net 7:30pm	<b>13</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>14</b> SWFT net 10:00 am Lee ALERT 7:30pm FMARC board 7:30pm	<b>15</b> SWFT net 10:00 am CC gabfest 8:00pm Lunch Bunch 11:30 Buddy Freddys	<b>16</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>17</b> SWFT net 10:00 am
<b>18</b> Loggerhead 7:30pm Windmill, 9pm.	<b>19</b> SWFT net 10:00am GCARC Net 7:30pm	<b>20</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>21</b> SWFT net 10:00 am Lee ALERT 7:30pm	<b>22</b> SWFT net 10:00 am CC gabfest 8:00pm Lunch Bunch 11:30 Buddy Freddys	<b>23</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>24</b> SWFT net 10:00 am
<b>25</b> Loggerhead 7:30pm Windmill, 9pm.	<b>26</b> SWFT net 10:00am GCARC Net 7:30pm	<b>27</b> FMARC Gen 7:15pm SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>28</b> SWFT net 10:00 am Lee ALERT 7:30pm	<b>29</b> SWFT net 10:00 am CC gabfest 8:00pm Lunch Bunch 11:30 Buddy Freddys	<b>30</b> SWFT net 10:00 am	<b>31</b> SWFT net 10:00 am Swap Shop Waterway Park Noon

★ MODULATOR ★

The Fort Myers Amateur  
RADIO CLUB Inc.  
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Ft. Myers, FL 33906

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