



FORT MYERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MODULATOR

FOUNDED 1957

www.FMARC.net

July 2023



The Official Voice of FMARC Inc



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Robert Griffin KJ4WPV

Greetings,

Well summer has arrived with a vengeance. Please for safety's sake, drink lots of water and wear light clothing.

So much has been going on this month for the Club. June 10th was the great giveaway and sale at the Swap Shop. In addition, a large cleanup was accomplished. Two pickup loads were hauled away to the dumpsters. We are making progress every week.

Summer Field Day is here. Plan on attending June 24 and 25 at the North Fort Myers location. You can read all about it in this edition of the Modulator. Also don't forget the additional Field Day location at the Club Station located at the Tice Fire Station. Both locations should provide opportunities for club members to get on the air and the North Fort Myers location will have a GOTA (Get On The Air) station this year.

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June Meeting

**The June Meeting of the club
will be in the EOC and
available on Zoom.**

**Gates at the EOC will open at
6:30 for a 7:00 start on
Tuesday June 27th.**

Plan on attending!

Continued From Prior Page

We have new leadership for ARES. I want to thank Steve Smith W9GPI for his years of service to ARES, FMARC, amateur radio in general and the residents of Lee County. There is a new ARES team under the leadership of Rich Schnieders, our new EC for Lee County. The first “in person” session for Rich and his team was on June 20th. Remember, ARES is looking for more members. There are lots of things to do to support your fellow hams and area residents.

It is not too early to prepare for hurricane season. Be sure your radios and batteries are charged up and ready to go. Have a Go Kit put together and ready to deploy. The warmer than normal waters in the storm breeding area makes planning a necessity. Remember, it only takes one!

Until next month, enjoy and take part in all the club has to offer. They are a bunch of things to do.

73

Robert Griffin KJ4WPV
President of FMARC



June 24 - 25

**North Fort Myers Park and Recreation Center, 2000
North Recreation Park Way, North Fort Myers**

Info: field_day@fmarc.net

Southwest Florida Traffic Net Update

The Southwest Florida Traffic Net had a respectable showing in May. Our traffic numbers were steady, and a consistent trend for 2023 has been a significant increase in the number of check-ins. We are back to pre-pandemic levels of check-ins, and it's great to see the activity back on the net.

I'd like to welcome Joe Rickard N0JAR to the ranks of our local traffic handlers. As this goes to print, Joe has started handling both outgoing and incoming traffic on our net. Thank you Joe, and keep up the great work.

By the time you read this, ARRL members should have received the July issue of QST where you will find an article on NTS 2.0. Please take the time to read this. The League has a renewed and expanded vision for the National Traffic System, and exciting new things are happening. You will hear much more about the progress of NTS 2.0 as 2023 progresses.

Many of our local traffic handlers have participated in the "NTS Trivia" program, sponsored by North Texas Section Traffic Manager Aaron Hulett K8AMH. This program took a hiatus for COVID and while Aaron took care of building a new house. We're pleased to announce that Aaron has brought NTS Trivia back to life. For all the details on how to participate, visit ntstrivia.com. The Southwest Florida Traffic Net would love to have you bring a trivia answer radiogram to the net.

Continued On Next Page

<u>SAR</u>	<u>MAY</u>
W2PAX	291
KR4ST	131
W4CMH	76
KR4PI	58
W2ARP	51
KQ4GUI	22
W9GPI	7
NK4AA	5
N0JAR	3

* SAR = Station Activity Report

<u>PSHR</u>	<u>MAY</u>
W2PAX	125
W4CMH	115
KR4PI	110
KR4ST	80

* PSHR = Public Service Honor Roll (In points)

<u>MONTHLY NET STATISTICS</u>	<u>MAY</u>
QNI	484
QTC	181
QND	911
SESSIONS	27

Southwest Florida Traffic Net Update

Continued From Prior Page

This month, we have the second and final installment of our primer on service messages. Last month we described what a service message was, and what you should do to service a sender back if you have successfully delivered their message. This month we will talk about what to do if you cannot successfully deliver their message.

The most important point to be remembered is that any message that cannot be delivered needs to be serviced back to the sender. (This does not apply to service messages – you don't "service a service message".) It is imperative that a sender know when their message couldn't get through.

To that end, there is an ARL numbered radiogram for this, ARL SIXTY SEVEN. The template text reads: "Your message number _____ undeliverable because of _____. Please advise." Remember with ARL numbered texts, you only need to include the fill-in information in your radiogram.

Let's say that I have message number 100 from K2XYZ that I couldn't deliver because the phone number they gave was wrong. My service message radiogram text would read:

ARL SIXTY SEVEN 100 PHONE

609 555 9876 NOT IN

SERVICE

Notice that I included the phone number that was received in the original message text. It is important to do that so the sender can verify the number you tried was indeed the number that was originally sent. It's always possible that the original number was relayed incorrectly. The same applies to an email address.

Many traffic handlers when they encounter a wrong phone number deliver the radiogram by "snail mail". While we are not required to incur costs to pass radiograms, this author sees this as a valuable effort in making sure the NTS fulfills its goals. If you choose to mail the radiogram despite a wrong phone, this would be considered a successful delivery and ARL FORTY SEVEN would apply for servicing, not the aforementioned ARL SIXTY SEVEN.

Until next month...keep the traffic moving!

License Testing

Results of June 8 Regular Exam Session



Paul Kielmeyer
KQ4IMC
Upgrade to General



Gavin Gilbert
KQ4GUI
Upgrade to General



John Beattie
N9FCA
Upgrade to Extra



Robert Christie
KQ4JDC
New General



George Kern
W2GFK
Upgrade to General

Also successfully testing was Brian Gould
KQ4JCU a New Technician



June VEs - Seated, Left to Right: Lynn Johnson KO4QHN, Tom Provenzano KM4LPW, Jon Scharbrough AA4JS.

Standing, Left to Right: Bob Pantazes W2ARP, Greg Barr K9YF, Al Schwartz K2AWS, Larry Stiles WF4LS, Don Domina KCØDE, Rich Schnieders KR4PI, Joe Rickard NØJAR.

The date of the next Regular License Test session is set for Thursday, July 13, at the EOC on Ortiz Ave. All candidates taking tests are required to pre-register. No walk-ins will be allowed at the regular sessions. You can pre register at <https://fmarc.net/exam-registration/>

Field Day 2023 is Here !!

Plans are just about complete for Field Day 2023. Co-Chairs Jon Scharbrough AA4JS and Lynn Johnson KO4HQN say that things are in place to make this year's event the best ever.

"FMARC has a good history with Field Days," Jon noted. "We have an active Winter Field Day and long-term participation in the ARRL Field Day held the same time each June." Both Chairs said they are hoping for a bigger turnout.



"Field Day is a great time for hams and non-hams to see just how amateur radio works in less-than-ideal conditions," commented Lynn. "We have members who set up and love to show how they operate off the grid. It is an excellent demonstration of emergency preparedness."

Several operating stations will be set up at the W4LX site located at the North Fort Myers Park and Recreation facility at 2200 North Recreation Parkway in North Ft Myers. There will also be a site at the club station located

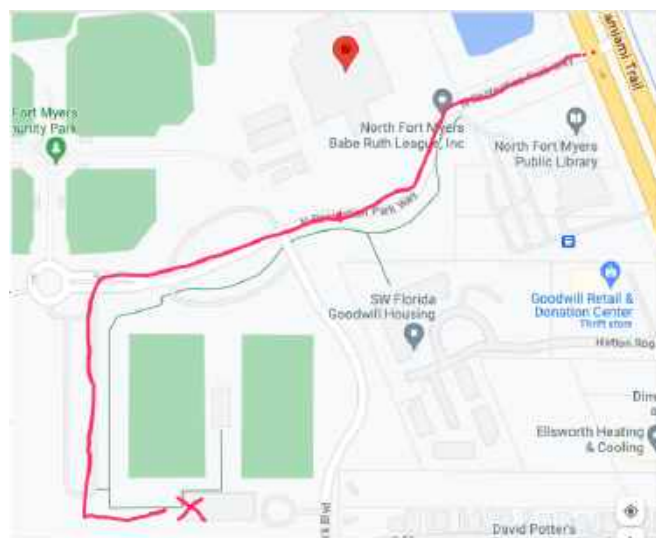
within the Tice Fire Station, 9351 Workmen Way, Fort Myers. The additional site is being organized by Bob Lewis N8GU.

Field Day presents the chance for all visitors to work all available bands and a number of different modes. "If you are a Technician class license holder, you can work the Extra or General class parts of the spectrum," Lynn said. "We will have a high class license holder sit with you for a while and you can run off their license privileges."

Set up starts at 8AM on Saturday June 25. The actual event starts at 2PM and runs until 2PM the following day. "We can always use operators to run overnight," Jon noted.

To help with planning, the organizers ask that you let them know if you will be at the W4LX site for set up and lunch. Tear down will start at 2PM Sunday and take about an hour.

For more information, contact Jon or Lynn at field_day@fmarc.net or bob at contesting@fmarc.net. Also get the most up to date information on the FMARC website at



FMARC Field Day Location

ARES Leadership Change

The ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC) position for Lee County has a new leader. Rich Schnieders KR4PI has been appointed to the role by Southern Florida Section Manager Barry Porter KB1PA. Rich takes the reigns of ARES locally from Steve Smith W9GPI. Steve stepped down from the EC role in order to focus on some health issues.

Rich is well known in the FMARC family. He has been a member of the club Board of Directors and serves on the Laurel VE Team. Rich is also one



of the club's digital gurus and beyond that he is always willing to help fellow hams solve their problems.

In a letter to the current ARES team, Rich outlined his plans for ARES going forward. He offered high praise for his predecessor and thanked him for his service. "He has done a great job and significantly impacted many people in Lee County." He added, "Steve has left a great group for us to build on."

Rich has created a new senior leadership team for ARES. The Assistant Emergency Coordinator (AEC) posts will be held by:

Dave Sheppard W2PAX – Operations Section Chief

John Wells W4CMH – Logistics Section Chief

Jeff Kennedy NK4AA – Planning Section Chief

Don Domina KCØDE – Administration Section Chief



In making the announcement of the organization, Rich stressed that the Team (and all of ARES) will follow the Incident Management System (ICS) Team structure. He refers to the leadership group as the Command and General Staff. The group has met a couple of times and specific tasks have been assigned to each member. In general terms, Dave will handle operations of shelters and nets. John is responsible for ARES equipment and training. Jeff's role will be center on the planning and PIO efforts. Don will be responsible for record keeping and new member onboarding.

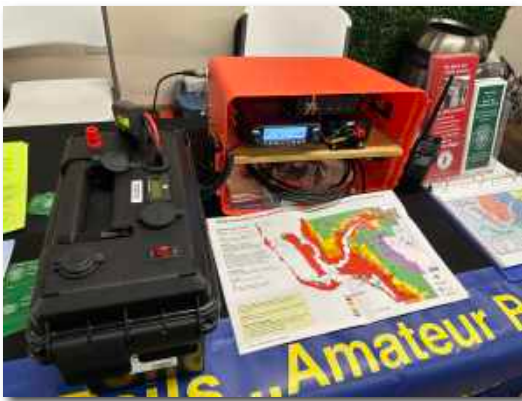
One of Rich's primary charges made to his team is to reach out and find new members. "We are going to train for events by training as teams," he said. "The teams should be ready to work together if and when they are deployed."

If you have an interest in ARES in any form, please contact Rich or any member of the General Staff. You can send an email to ares@fmarc.net. Your fellow Lee County residents will thank you.

Hurricane Awareness

Recently, FMARC was represented at a couple of local Hurricane Awareness events. These events were more prevalent before the arrival of Covid, but at least two were held for local folks to learn more about how they should get ready for major storms.

The first session FMARC took part in was sponsored by the city of Cape Coral. It was the first time the city had undertaken this type of event and organizers were thrilled with the attendance. Held at the Mercola, just off Pine Island Road, various community organizations set up information booths to answer questions. On hand for FMARC were Robert Griffin KJ4WPV, Steve Clayton K4SJC, Jeff Kennedy NK4AA and Don Domina KCØDE.



Part of the Display at the Event



News Coverage Featured FMARC

The second event was at the Shell Factory in North Fort Myers. FMARC has taken part in their awareness campaign for several years. Also featured was one of the local TV weather forecasters.

John Wells W4CMH attended, along with Steve Clayton, Jeff Kennedy, and Robert Griffin.



W4CMH Addressing the Attendees



Ready to Talk Radio

If your group or association is hosting any kind of event, FMARC will be happy to talk with them about the benefits of Ham Radio. Contact pastpres@fmarc.net.

Digital Corner

By Chris Freundlich KB2IDX



Welcome to July! It's hot and humid already, and it's Hurricane season. We can thank Steve W9GPI for being prepared last year and we won't soon forget the lessons learned last year.

Digital modes, other than CW, do not get used for emergency purposes. In my lifetime, there have been several disasters where CW was the only way to get communications out. I am convinced that CW is not going away and I'm glad. There is a recent resurgence of new hams wanting to learn "the code". Personally, I don't use CW now, mostly because I have no HF rig. I likely would be had I the equipment. CW is fun so get involved!

Next up, last month, I discussed the subject of identifying your station in digital modes. My statement was that I found no "rule" that said anything other than "you must identify your station every 10 minutes and at the end of a QSO". Our friend Rich, KR4PI, has stated that there is an allowance for D-STAR. Due to his new role as EC for ARRL, he has not had lot of time to find this info. I'm going to put this on the back burner for now. I will say however, that my personal feelings on the issue are that... it is your station! Run your station the way you want to. I try to "ID" myself often anyway. I'm sure there's no squad of ninny's running around looking for violations and telling Mommy on you. Use the rules you know to operate your station. AND, by all means have fun!

Lastly for this month I'm going to list a few nets of interest. Many thanks to Jim KF5IW for placing KC-WIDE on the DMR repeater. You can listen to everything on KC-WIDE. Here is a link to their net list <https://www.kansascityroom-wide.com/nets/>.

-- **Saturdays** at 6:00pm EST is Boise Bobs "food-4-talk" and at 7:00pm is My show "Radio check and more".

-- **Thursdays** at 9:00pm is "lets talk digital" with Bucky WØSUN. It's a lot of fun. Bucky has a section of his show called "BBQ". No no its not food. It Means "Bring Bucky Questions".

Bucky is one smart cookie in the digital world. There is a lot of digital places to learn and have fun...remember, what ever you do, make sure it's FUN!

Cya next month...Chris, KB2IDX@gmail.com

Hamvention 2023

The annual event know as Hamvention is now in the books. The weather cooperated this year. FMARC member Bob Pantazes W2ARP made the trek to Xenia OH and shared some photos. Bob also said that even though attendance was up this year, the venue was not crowded.

There is also a rumor of a new antenna purchase...but I am sure he will report on that later.

Bob, thanks for sharing your pictures and comments.



The Tree of Knowledge V2.0

Hurricane Ian left a lot of destruction in its wake. One thing lost was the beloved "Tree of Knowledge" at the FMARC Swap Shop. Swap Shop organizers are happy to report a new solution has been found. There is now a portable pop up on site during the Swap Shop hours. So far this V2.0 solution, where knowledge on a wide ranging series of topics is shared, has received high praise.

Come on out the second and last Saturday of most months and see for yourself. Oh...and the Swap Shop has a bunch of good deals



Left -- Jams gathered at the Swap Shop under the "Tree of Knowledge V2.0"

Right -- Bargain tables outside the Swap Shop on a recent Saturday morning



Stealth Antenna

Many folks in FMARC (and other areas) live in areas when HOAs (Homeowner Associations) severely restrict any form of outside antenna. That leaves hams with the issue of running an antenna in their enclosed garage or the attic space above their living area. Others may put up a temporary antenna or try to hide on in the bushes. In all cases the functionality of the antenna is compromised.

How about if you could put up an antenna in plain sight, outside and not run afoul of most HOAs. Sounds pretty good...consider a slot antenna made from an old satellite dish.

On the following couple of pages is an article from an old ARRL QST titled "An Efficient 2 Meter Antenna Disguised as a Satellite Dish." It is from March of 2016 and is reprinted with the kind permission of ARRL.

If you don't have an old dish, look around. Many folks are getting new ones because of damage due to Hurricane Ian. The satellite TV folks would rather replace the entire dish when reinstalling after a roof job is completed.

Under federal law, residents in community associations have the right to install satellite dishes. This is true even if the association documents seem to restrict that right. The law overrides the community rules. While the use of the dish is not for satellite reception, its positions and placement may go unnoticed. For many people, the investment is small, and the benefits are great.

Take a look at the article that follows. It may help you on 2 Meters and it may never be noticed by the

"association police". Enjoy the article and let us know if you actually install and operate one. Drop a line to modulator@fmarc.net with your information. Thanks.



An Efficient 2 Meter Antenna Disguised as a TV Satellite Dish

This vertically polarized horizontal slot antenna, cut into the reflector of a TV dish, might be the ultimate stealth antenna.

John Portune, W6NBC

I've long wondered if it would be practical to hide an efficient 2 meter base-station antenna in a TV satellite dish. My homeowners covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&R) committee couldn't force me to take it down.¹ But would all the metal in the TV dish compromise a 2 meter antenna? Finally, it struck me: don't fight the metal, take advantage of it, by cutting a half-wavelength-long slot antenna into the TV dish reflector.

A slot antenna is a narrow rectangular opening in a large conductive surface, such as a TV satellite dish. Slot antennas are familiar in the commercial radio world. They're common in TV broadcasting, the skin of aircraft, and in radar, microwave, and cell phone applications. This TV dish (see Figure 1) slot is the complement to a dipole. It is also a great way to learn about slot antennas.

The Slot Antenna

A slot behaves like a dipole. Both have roughly 2 dBi gain perpendicular to the antenna and they are omni-directional on axis. I found that a slot is easy to work with. I was delighted to find that this one displays good agreement with theory. The width of a slot — like the conductor diameter of a wire dipole — partially determines its bandwidth. My first slot was arbitrarily $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width, but all smaller widths I subsequently tried also worked well. The one described here is a single jigsaw blade cut. I reasoned that the thinner the slot, the less neighbors would notice it. Figure 2 graphs its very adequate bandwidth — less than 1.5 to 1 SWR over the entire 2 meter band.

There are differences between a slot dipole and a wire dipole. The horizontal slot is vertically polarized because of the RF currents flowing in the entire surface around



Figure 1 — Note the low visibility of the slot in my modified satellite TV dish.

the slot. The horizontal dish slot is correct for vertically polarized 2 meter repeaters.

Dish Size and Slot Size

The common 22 x 32-inch SlimLine DIRECTV® dish, or equivalent, is a good choice. It has a large enough surface area. My *Antennas* textbook suggests

that classical slot behavior is achieved for a surface larger than $\frac{1}{2} \lambda$ by $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$.² This made me wonder if even a Slim-Line dish would be too small, but tests suggested otherwise.

This slot behaves classically.

I welcome reader comments on their experiences.

There isn't enough room for a straight slot in a SlimLine DIRECTV dish — the ends must droop in order for the slot to fit. This only slightly "softens" the gain and directivity. Figure 3 shows the comparison

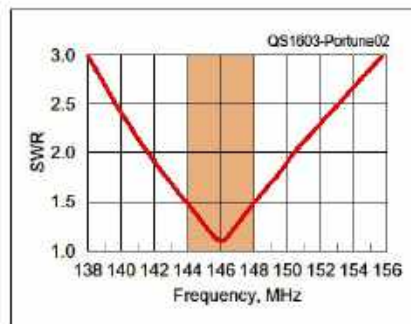


Figure 2 — Bandwidth of a single-saw-blade-cut TV dish slot antenna.

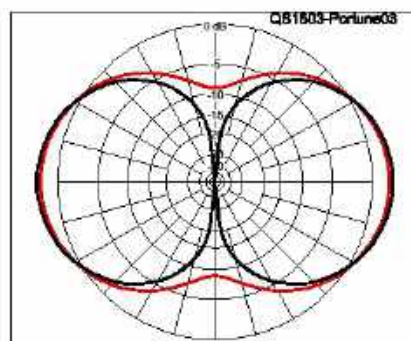


Figure 3 — Elevation radiation patterns for a vertical wire simulation of the bent slot (red) and a straight slot (black). The peak gains are 1.9 dBi and 2.1 dBi, respectively.

between wire equivalents of the slot, and of a dipole. I used wire equivalents for the simulations because *EZNEC* is not ideal for slots.

Cutting the Slot

To cut the slot, remove the reflector from the mount and LNB assembly. Mark a straight 24-inch horizontal line and two 7.5-inch drooped ends (39 inches total) on the back. Position them as shown in Figure 4. Exact position is not critical. Make a single jigsaw cut with a 21 tpi HSS metal-cutting blade. File the edges smooth and apply clear plastic spray paint to prevent

The horizontal dish slot is correct for vertically polarized 2 meter repeaters.



Figure 4 — A horizontal slot antenna, with drooping ends, cut into the reflector of a Slim-Line DIRECTV satellite dish.

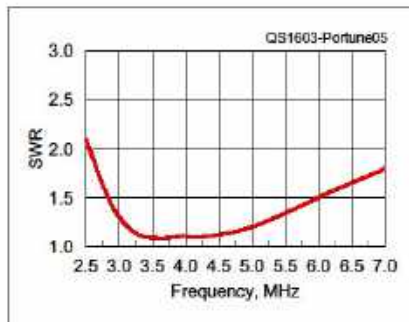


Figure 5 — SWR for a feed point approximately 4.5 inches from the end of the slot.

rust. Do not cover the slot. The neighbors won't notice the slot at this width.

My 40-inch-long cut is a little too long. I did this intentionally to cause the slot to tune a little low in frequency. A too-short slot would have been difficult to lengthen with the dish mounted in its location. It's much easier, and just as effective, to "short" a slot end with heavy aluminum tape (a hardware store item).

If the short is large compared to the slot (roughly 1.5×1.5 inches), capacitive coupling makes it unnecessary to remove the paint from the dish.

For stability, the dish needs a rigid plastic brace across the slot (back center). I used 3 inches of 0.5-inch square nylon bar stock attached with four 6-32 brass screws. The plastic handle of an old paint brush, for example, would also be fine.

Feeding and Matching

Attach the feed coax braid to one side of the slot and the center conductor to the other side directly across, though not in the middle. Coax feed for a slot is done off-center.



Figure 6 — The coax feed line includes a six-turn coiled-coax choke balun and attaches 4.5 inches from the slot end.

A center-fed wire dipole impedance is $Z_{dipole} = 72 \Omega$, increasing off-center toward the ends. Conversely, the slot dipole impedance is high in the middle ($Z_{slot} = 493 \Omega$), and decreases toward the ends. My *Antennas* textbook estimates the 50Ω points at roughly 0.05λ from either end. [The wire dipole and slot dipole are complementary structures. Their center-fed impedances are related by $(376.7)^2 = 4Z_{dipole}Z_{slot}$

and their electric and magnetic fields, and thus polarizations, are swapped. — Ed.] Using my MFJ-259B antenna analyzer, I easily found the match near the textbook estimate.

I initially used an easy-to-move feed-line attachment fixture and found that the feed point location is not touchy (see Figure 5). You needn't duplicate my movable fixture — just directly make a permanent attachment as in Figure 6.

The match is good anywhere from 3 to 6 inches from an end. Be sure to use a 1:1 current choke balun. The one shown is

six turns of RG-58 coax secured with UV-stabilized Ty-Rap® cable ties. I used clear silicon adhesive to attach the choke to the back of the dish.

Using the Dish

After seeing my dish, my ham friends asked if one dish could be used for both 2 meter activity and TV reception. Possibly, but recalling that the slot has azimuth directivity, you might want to point your slotted dish at the repeater(s). However, it's omnidirectional in elevation, so you can tilt it upward as if it were receiving TV satellite signals. For a good path to 2 meter repeaters, mount the dish at least at roof height, as you would any 2 meter antenna.

Dual operation may not be practical because 2 meter transmissions might interfere with TV reception. I have not tested this, and welcome reader comments. I prefer separate dishes, on opposite sides of my house.

Finishing the Dish

I left the TV LNB assembly as-is. The arm is perpendicular to the slot and the whole assembly is likely not resonant. With a little effort, though, a false non-metallic feed assembly could be fabricated. I did not consider the effort worthwhile.

With one of these disguised dishes, next time you're talking on your local repeater you can say, "I'm coming to you through my TV satellite dish." That should spice up the channel chatter.

Notes

¹US 47 CFR Section 1.4000, October 1996, "prohibits restrictions that impair...antennas used to receive video...including...satellite dishes less than one meter (39 in.) in diameter." <https://www.fcc.gov/guides/over-air-reception-devices-rule>

²J. Kraus, *Antennas*, 3rd Edition, Chapter 9, p 305.

John Portune, W6NBC, can be reached at 519 W Taylor St, SPC 111, Santa Maria, CA 93458, or by e-mail at jportune@aol.com. His website is w6nbc.com.

For updates to this article, see the QST Feedback page at www.arrrl.org/feedback.



Lightning

by Don Domina KCØDE

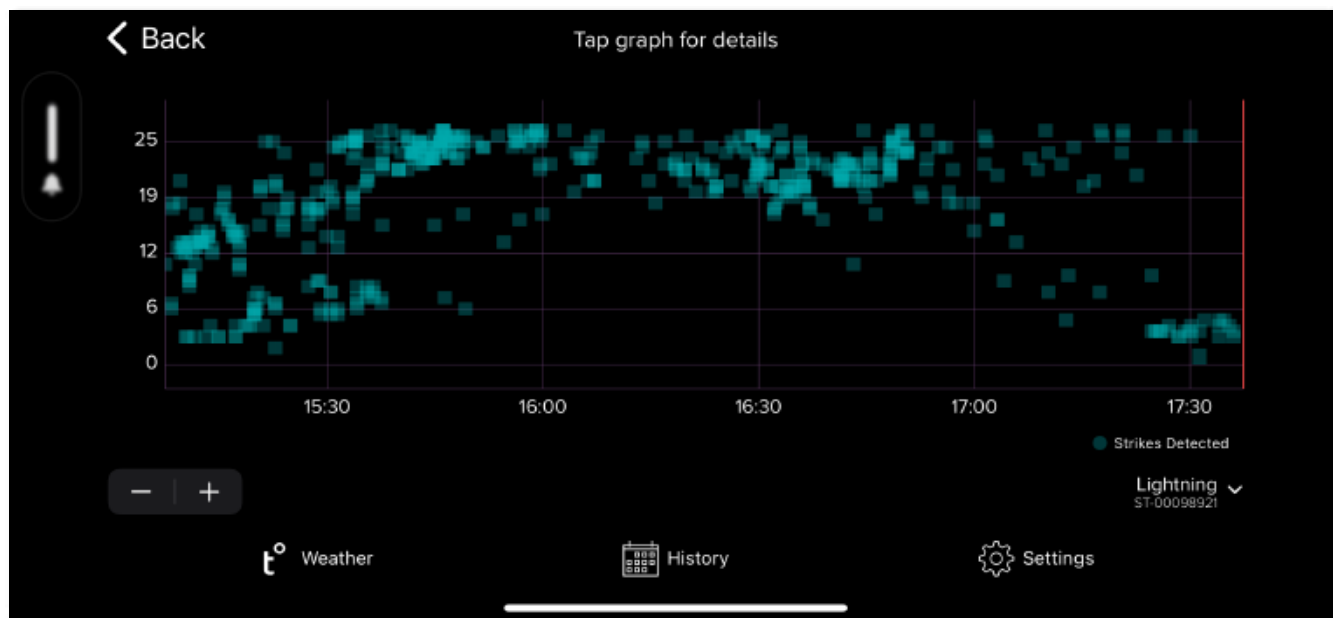
Southwest Florida is known for its lightning. As we begin another "rainy season" those afternoon storms become more and more frequent.

I received a new home weather station as a Christmas present and installed it a few months ago.

It is a WeatherFlow Tempest: <https://weatherflow.com/tempest-home-weather-system/>. I mounted it on the top of my pool cage and it connects via Wifi to my computer and phone.

In addition to measuring windspeed, temperature and rainfall, this model also detects nearby lightning strikes. I have it set up to give me a message on my phone when lightning is nearby. That is a reminder for me to disconnect antennas.

One of the things I found interesting about the lightning detection mode, is that you can "see" the progression of storms over time. The photo is a screen shot from the Tempest GUI on my phone. Distance from my QTH is the vertical axis and time is along the horizontal. Each of the blue hash marks is a detected strike. Some overlap a bit. In the picture you can see that a storm was on top of me at the beginning. It then moved off and a new storm moved in on the right side. The progression and movement is clear. It's a neat way to visualize the storm movement.



Repeater Updates

Repeater issues have forced the relocation of a some nets. Check the FMARC website for updated information.

- The ARES Net (Wed 7:00PM) has moved to 145.170 (# 20)
- The SWFTN (Mon-Sat at 10:00AM) has moved to 145.170 (#20)

POTA Goes on Hiatus

By Bob Lews N8GU

It was perfect weather for the season finale of the FMARC POTA held Saturday June 3 at Lover's Key State Park.

Seven members of FMARC participated in the last schedule POTA event until the cooler weather returns. A total of 107 QSOs were accomplished. Band conditions were not great, but we all had a fun time.

In addition to the POTA contacts, 12 of them were submitted to PODXS for their PSK31 contest.

Participants included:

Bob Lewis N8GU
Dale Gosney KJ4YDI
Dan Blashill KD7ACB
Greg Barr K9YF
Scott Bauer KO4RTM
Steve Carmean K9DY
Tom Provenzano KM4LPW

For more information regarding the FMARC POTA program please email your inquiry to pota@fmarc.net. The FMARC POTA activity will resume in September 2023.



FMARC Member on Podcast

FMARC member Bob Vinikoor W3CFE was featured recently on the QSO Today Amateur Radio Podcast. Bob, who is a part time resident of Ft Myers, was interviewed by Eric Guth 4Z1UG.

During the chat, Bob talks about his life in radio (both amateur and professional). The podcast



Bob In His Ft Myers QTH



(Episode 447) can be found at <https://www.qsotoday.com/podcasts/W3CFG>. Bob is currently living in Jerusalem but has a remote station operating from a hilltop in Vermont. His Israeli call is 4X5CE The interview is a fascinating look at his varied career and hobby. Of interest, Eric is founder of the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo. Give a listen to Bob's chat.

Low Cost Radios Available Again

FMARC has agreed to make low cost pre-programmed radios available again. Past President Steve Clayton K4SJC will again be the focal pointing for obtaining these low cost HTs.

Steve estimated the donation price of the radio will remain at \$35. "I plan to program them with the suggested ARES channels that cover all of Lee County and pick up some of the surrounding areas as well," he said.

This is a newer model radio that was previously offered. Steve will have a supply of them available at Field Day. If you want to get your name on one or just have questions, contact Steve directly at pastpres@fmarc.net.



Join in the Fun with QCWA



Edison Chapter 196
Meets every 3rd Monday of the month
We gather at 11:30 AM
We meet at Mugs N' Jugs in Lehigh Acres
5512 8th Street West off of Lee Blvd.

All are welcome, you don't have to be in the hobby for 25 years.

HT to Outside Antenna

You can use your HT in your house with a simple low cost adapter. The adapter takes the usual SMA antenna connection and connects it to a PL259. That PL259 then can easily attach to the coax feeding your outside VHF/UHF antenna. The one pictured is from Amazon and sells for under \$15.

Most HTs use an SMA Male or Female connection. This kit includes an adapter for use with either. In addition, it has a 3' flexible coax before the PL259. That is important because a direct heavy coax connection to the HT can very easily damage the SMA connection. This cable/adapter is a must for every "go kit" and a good idea to have around your house for use in power outages.

The Amazon ordering information is [Amazon PL259 to SMA pigtail](#).



The Original FMARC Call in Use?

Members know the club call sign is W4LX and last month an old QSL card from the 1930's showed it was used by a Ft Myers resident. Pete Varounis NL7XM, who found the earlier card has come across an even earlier version.

Pete located a QSL card from 1926 with the call 4LX. This was just before the FCC added the mandatory "W" to call signs in 1928. 4LX would become W4LX in 1928!

This card was sent by amateur John Cain Jr from Nashville TN to Harold Pratt in Pownal, Vermont. Oh...and the postage...a whopping 2 Cents.

Thanks again Pete for the memories.

To *Mr. Harold Pratt* Nashville, Tenn. Date *Nov 18, 1926*

AUD. _____
QSB. _____
QSS. _____
QRH. _____
TIME _____

U.S.A.
4LX

TRANSMITTER:
1UV 203 A
200 WAX INPUT

RECEIVER:
2-tube
Regenerative

P. S. *Thank you for your card om.*
I do not know what my exact goal was at that time as
I have been experimenting with
Kindly QSL --
aerials and my goal has been
shipping according to form 39-42.

Signature *John E. Cain Jr.*
Address *Nashville Post*

First FMARC Scholarship Winner Announced

The first recipient of the scholarship offered by FMARC through ARRL has been announced. This year's grant went to Alison Dean KO4IOK, a General class license holder from Jupiter FL. She plans on attending Duquesne in the fall. In making the announcement, the ARRL said, "Scholarship recipients were recently notified of their awards, and we have already had many replies conveying their excitement and appreciation."

Jim Walch K4DIP is chair of the club's scholarship committee and was contacted by ARRL with the announcement. Plans are to continue the program with a new recipient next year.



New Members of FMARC

Luis Alvarez KQ4HVB - Bonita Springs
Angelo Rosin KF6YJV - North Fort Myers
Paul Marks KQ4HVE - North Fort Myers
Lloyd Blueweiss KA2LAC - Cape Coral
Catherine McNally KD2MWZ - Cape Coral
Bob Christie KQ4JDC - Ft Myers

FMARC Digital Repeaters

444.750 - Fusion - Linked to WIRES-X Room 21805

444.675 - Fusion - Linked to WIRES-X Room 21805

443.450 - D-STAR - W4LCO Module B

442.175 - DMR - KF5IW on Brandmeister - TG 311261 CC1



It is easy to get into the "digital" part of Amateur radio. If you need some help or just have questions, contact Chris Freundlich KB2IDX at kb2idx@gmail.com or post your questions and comments on the FMARC groups.io page. There is a large community to help you and get you going.

Do You Remember?

Periodically we will post a couple of questions that are found in the current FCC License Question Pool for the various levels of tickets. Give it a try and see if you remember or just plain "know" the answers....Answers can be found elsewhere in this month's Modulator.

Technician Level

T1F01

When must the station and its records be available for FCC inspection?

- A. At any time ten days after notification by the FCC of such an inspection
- B. At any time upon request by an FCC representative
- C. At any time after written notification by the FCC of such inspection
- D. Only when presented with a valid warrant by an FCC official or government agent

T6A07

What electrical component is typically constructed as a coil of wire?

- A. Switch
- B. Capacitor
- C. Diode
- D. Inductor

General Level

G2A07

Which of the following statements is true of the single sideband voice mode?

- A. Only one sideband and the carrier are transmitted; the other sideband is suppressed
- B. Only one sideband is transmitted; the other sideband and carrier are suppressed
- C. SSB is the only voice mode that is authorized on the 20-meter, 15-meter, and 10-meter amateur bands
- D. SSB is the only voice mode that is authorized on the 160-meter, 75-meter, and 40-meter amateur bands

G4D08

What frequency range is occupied by a 3 kHz LSB signal when the displayed carrier frequency is set to 7.178 MHz?

- A. 7.178 to 7.181 MHz
- B. 7.178 to 7.184 MHz
- C. 7.175 to 7.178 MHz
- D. 7.1765 to 7.1795 MHz

Extra Level

E7E05

What circuit is added to an FM transmitter to boost the higher audio frequencies?

- A. A de-emphasis network
- B. A heterodyne suppressor
- C. A heterodyne enhancer
- D. A pre-emphasis network

E4A09

Which of the following is good practice when using an oscilloscope probe?

- A. Keep the signal ground connection of the probe as short as possible
- B. Never use a high-impedance probe to measure a low-impedance circuit
- C. Never use a DC-coupled probe to measure an AC circuit
- D. All these choices are correct



Random Signals

This month brought a “changing of the guard” for the Lee County ARES organization. Steve Smith W9GPI has stepped aside from his role as Emergency Coordinator for our local area. He has some health issues that need his focus and attention. We all wish him well. Steve had served as EC since mid 2014. He came to the position after relocating to SWFL from the Fond du Lac area of WI where he served as the EC for that county.

My first contact with FMARC came at a club meeting held at the old Riverside location in 2015. The person I spoke with at length that night was Steve. I told him of my background in ARES work in MO. He urged me to join the local ARES group even though I was only planning to be a “snowbird” at that time. Steve was welcoming and supportive.

Fast forward a bit and I decided to live full time in SWFL. I was involved in ARES and looked for ways to assist. Steve offered me a leadership post to help with the administrative and paperwork side of the organization. He warmly accepted my suggestions and was supportive as we built the structure to trap and report information.

Steve was also the Editor of this newsletter when I came to FMARC. In addition to his role as EC, he published and distributed the monthly Modulator. That was not a small task. He also picked up duties as Education Chair and chaired the Nomination Committee for the club each year. We talked about me helping him with the newsletter and again his response was warm and inclusive. I gradually took over the role of editor, but he always took that “final look” before it was distributed.

On a personal note, Steve was always right there with a compliment for a good job, and he made sure he let others know when someone around him had contributed. That is one of those measures of a true leader.

Steve was FMARC “Ham of the Year” in 2016. That showed me that others recognized his impact on our club and our lives. He lead the ARES group through two major hurricanes (Irma and Ian) and won the praise of Lee County Emergency Management for the ARES group response.

Steve...Thank you for a job “well done”. Thanks for leaving us with a great foundation to continue building on. And thanks for being a friend.

Don Domina KCØDE

Editors Note:

Every once in a while, I hear or see something that does not quite fit into a nice neat package. If I think it's something of general interest, I plan to use this forum to let you know about it. If you have something that is interest to you, let me know. It is probably of interest to other members. You can send your thoughts directly to me at modulator@fmarc.net. Thanks and 73.

Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Minutes of the May 30, 2023 General Meeting

Please Note: This meeting was held both In Person and virtually via Zoom.

The May 30, 2023 General meeting of the FMARC was called to order by President Robert Griffin KJ4WPV with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm.

Rich Schnieders KR4PI provided the Invocation.

President Robert Griffin KJ4WPV welcomed new members and visitors. Mark Johnsen NB1U, a 50 year ham and member of the new Tice Station Manager team. Joe Huie K2PEY, Cathy McNally-Blueweiss KD2MWZ, Lloyd Blueweiss KA2LAC, Bob Christie, Gerd Buchsteiner AC4EU from Germany who spends 6 months in Florida, and Dave Schwartz KQ4IME.

On the Care List there were no new additions. Still on the list are Steve Clayton K4SJC, Bill Day KN4RML, Andy Blitz KO4FEY, Frank Rabb K4FHR, Steve Smith W9GPI, Shirley Griffin, and Tom Provenzano KM4LPW. Silent Keys: No silent keys were announced.

A motion made by Carmine Vetrano K1CJV seconded by Al Schwartz K2AWS to approve the minutes of the last general meeting as posted in the recent issue of the Modulator. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Officer Reports

President: Robert Griffin KJ4WPV greeted everyone and suggested they take time to read the Modulator. He noted there are lots of activities listed every month in the Modulator. He also asked members to consider joining ARES. We

are here to support our County.

Vice President: Jeff Kennedy NK4AA thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. It is great to see all the new hams and visitors. If you need help getting connected or issues with your rig let Jeff know. He will help you make a good connection. In his role as PIO he will be part of a Hurricane Prep event at Mercola with the City of Cape Coral along with other club members Steve Clayton K4SJC, Don Domina KC0DE. Jeff also took part in an event at the Shell Factory.

Secretary: Lynn Johnson KO4QHN had no report.

Treasurer: Leo Windler W4LJW presented the Board with a summary of all monies and accounts for the club.

Joe Rickard NØJAR moved approval of the treasurer's report It was second by Artis Kitchen K1AWK. The motion approved on voice vote.

Director: Jon Scharbrough AA4JS held his report until discussion on Field Day 2023.

Director: Rick Lawrence W4RIC shared with the club that the reason he got into Ham Radio was to be a part of ARES. He urged members to come to an ARES meeting and check it out.

Past President: Steve Clayton K4SJC asked the club if they want to continue the Low Cost Tri-Band Radio program. The cost of the radio will be \$35.00. Steve said he was willing to do the programming of the units.

Al Schwartz K2AWS offered a motion to allocate up to \$1000.00 to purchase 30 Tri-

Band radios. The motion was seconded by Joe Rickard N0JAR. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Committee Reports

VE Testing: Larry Stiles WF4LS reported that we had 40 exams administered in the first five months of the year. Congrats to the 38 hams who passed their exams. The General question pool changes July 1, 2023.

Swap Shop: Carmine Vetrano K1CJV reported they will hold a “shop clean-up” on June 10, He planned for a committee meeting at 8 AM, 9 AM set up sale, shop opens at 11AM. A question was asked about holding an education or skills day at the swap shop. Carmine said he will discuss that opportunity with Mel Schroth KW4MEL and Leo Windler W4LJW. He is hoping the swap shop can provide “break/fix” seminar.

POTA: Bob Lewis N8GU shared that Saturday June 3 will be the last POTA for the season. The team will start up again in the fall when the weather is more favorable. He reported that the Tice Club Station will participate in Field Day. He urged visitors to come and operate contact Bob if interested. A EFHW antenna and coax for

the station has been ordered.

Field Day: Jon Scharbrough AA4JS reported that we are going to have two open stations available for any ham that wants to come out to Field Day but not stay overnight. Jon reminded everyone to save the dates June 24-25.

Technical Committee: Robert Pantazes W2ARP reported on the major issues with the 685 repeater. The county will change the antenna for us. We will replace the repeater.

Old Business None noted

New Business: None noted

A motion to adjourn was made by Al Schwartz K2AWS, and was seconded by Bill White KK4AGX. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

*Minutes submitted by
Lynn Johnson KO4QHN
Secretary*



June 24th and 25th 2023

Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Minutes of the June 13, 2023 Board Meeting

Please Note: This meeting was held both In Person and virtually via Zoom.

The June 13, 2023 meeting of the FMARC Board of Directors was called to order by President Robert Griffin KJ4WPV with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm.

Rich Schnieders KR4PI provided the Invocation.

Roll Call

President Robert Griffin KJ4WPV Present

Vice-President Jeff Kennedy NK4AA Present

Secretary Lynn Johnson KO4QHN Present via Zoom

Treasurer Leo Windler W4LJW Present

Director Jon Scharbrough AA4JS Present

Director Rick Lawrence W4RIC - Present

Past President Steve Clayton K4SJC Present

There were 18 members present including 15 on Zoom.

Those on the care list were mentioned. They included Steve Clayton K4SJC, Steve Smith W9GPI, Bill Day KN4RML, Shirley Griffin and Greg Barr K9YF.

There were no silent keys noted.

Officer Reports

President: Bob Griffin KJ4WPV reiterated the need for MOTA volunteers and he urged members to get involved with ARES. He said the reason he got involved in amateur radio was a desire to help people and ARES works well for that.

A motion was made by Jeff Kennedy NK4AA and seconded by Rick Lawrence W4RIC to accept the minutes as printed in the Modulator. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-President: Jeff Kennedy NK4AA noted there were two upcoming Hurricane Events. One was at Gateway and one at Sandoval. He also noted he would be speaking under New Business and ARES.

Secretary: Lynn Johnson KO4QHN no report. Joe Rickard NØJAR recorded the minutes for the meeting.

Treasurer: Leo Windler W4LJW provided those in attendance with a summary of the clubs accounts, expenses and and income.

A motion was made by Jon Scharbrough AA4JS and seconded by Steve Clayton K4SJC to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Director: Jon Scharbrough AA4JS spoke about the upcoming Field Day. He urged members to let him know if they were coming. Also he said the logging software N3FJP will need to be updated. He urged attendees to see himself or Bob Pantazes W2ARP to configure the software.

Director: Rick Lawrence W4RIC noted the need for the board to vote on new members.

Past President: Steve Clayton K4SJC advised that two upcoming Hurricane events were on the schedule. The first is July 1 at Gateway Commons. It is a large venue so all club members are encouraged to attend if they wish. The second is at Sandoval in Cape Coral and will be a smaller event. The second is being organized by Carmine Vetrano K1CJV.

Committee Reports

ARES: Rich Schnieders KR4PI advised he had been appointed the new Emergency Coordinator for Lee County by the ARRL replacing Steve Smith W9GPI who recently stepped down. Rich outlined the new organization structure on the ICS system and introduced the 4 assistant ECs.

The ARES group will meet on June 20 for its regular monthly meeting. In addition he reported that the ARES Command and General Staff will meet with Lee County Emergency Management on the following day.

AEC Jeff Kennedy reported the staff are reviewing the previous organizations, equipment and the website. For the website he said the current FMARC website and hosting platform are capable of hosting (5) five websites. We are currently using one of the websites to host FMARC. The ARES Staff plans to create a website using the following at LeeAres.com, with additional pointers from LeeARES.net and LeeARES.org. It was decided to go with a shorter domain name and consolidating with the FMARC hosting license was cost effective and easier to maintain. Both sites will now use the same software. In answer to questions, Jeff advised that the site will support multiple device types and there will not be any impact on the hamfest website. The staff intends to keep the current ARES domain pointing to the new site during a transition period.

A motion was made by Jeff Kennedy NK4AA and seconded by Steve Clayton K4SJC that the FMARC would permit ARES to use the FMARC hosting slot and sponsor the (3) three new domains with a cost of up to \$200 every 5 years. The motion passed unanimously.

VE Testing: Larry Stiles WF4LS advised there were (6) six applicants at this month's testing and all passed at the General level or higher. At this time, the ULS Database is down for maintenance.

Elmer: Jim Blocker KF5IW helped two people configure their DMR radios. He also helped person studying for most recent General exam.

Robert Griffin KJ4WPV announced he will be Safety Officer at Field Day.

Swap Shop: Carmine Vetrano K1CJV said the Swap Shop last weekend was successful. He

asked for volunteers to move equipment and gear to Field Day on Friday. Contact Carmine at Swap_Shop@FMARC.net

SWFTN: Dave Sheppard W2PAX said his comments are in the Modulator.

A motion was made by Jon Scharbrough AA4JS and seconded by Steve Clayton K4SJC to accept the new candidates as members. The motion passed unanimously.

Field Day: Jon Scharbrough AA4JS made a pitch for members to come out and join in. Setup will be around 0900 on Saturday morning. The operating hours are from 1400 – 1400 (Saturday – Sunday). He also asked for help for Carmine to move equipment. Jon said there will be a Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) to help mentor some of the new Hams. Al Schwartz K2AWS will be using his call sign.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

President Griffin noted the need to appoint a new Education Committee Chair following the retirement of Steve Smith W9GPI. Discussion centered on the role and style of education. Mel Schroth KW4MEL was appointed Chair.

President Griffin said he has asked the Treasurer to look into ways of investing some of the club's money for a greater return. Leo Windler is working on the matter.

Vice President Jeff Kennedy NK4AA has created a new Injury Report Form and a new Attendance Log that he would like adopted by the club. The new Injury Report Form, which he has had the Safety Officer review, steers away from words like “employee” and uses “participant” and “events”.

A motion was made by Steve Clayton K4SJC and seconded by Jon Scharbrough AA4JS to adopt the new forms for use by the club. The

motion passed unanimously.

President Griffin KJ4WPV suggested a debit card be issued to Bob Pantazes to cover expenses he incurs with repeater and antenna maintenance. Steve Clayton K4SJC stated that with the new bylaws there could be up to four signatories at Suncoast. W2ARP can be added without a vote of the board.

Bob Pantazes W2ARP request funds to purchase a lockable cabinet for use at the club station located at the Tice Fire House. Bob said it would be used to keep an antenna and other equipment on site at the location.

A motion was made by Steve Clayton K4SJC and seconded by Jeff Kennedy NK4AA, to allow for up to \$250 to be spent on the cabinet for the Tice Firehouse. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Jon Scharbrough AA4JS and seconded by Jeff Kennedy NK4AA, to adjourn. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:07.

*Minutes submitted by
Joe Rickard NØJAR for
Lynn Johnson KO4QHN
Secretary*



[Click Here for the Lee County Hurricane Preparedness Guide](#)

FORT MYERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Robert Griffin	KJ4WPV
Vice President	Jeff Kennedy	NK4AA
Secretary	Lynn Johnson	KO4QHN
Treasurer	Leo Windler	W4LJW
Director 2024	Rick Lawrence	W4RIC
Director 2023	Jon Scharbrough	AA4JS
Past President	Steve Clayton	K4SJC

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ARES®	Rich Schnieders	KR4PI
ARRL Liaison	Dave Sheppard	W2PAX
Club Chaplain	Rich Schnieders	KR4PI
Contesting	Bob Lewis	N8GU
Education	Stephen Smith	W9GPI
Elmer	Jim Blocker	KF5IW
Field Day co Chair	Jon Scharbrough	AA4JS
Field Day co Chair	Lynn Johnson	KO4QHN
Greeter	Mel Schroth	KW4MEL
Hamfest	Mel Schroth	KW4MEL
Membership	Bob Pantazes	W2ARP
Modulator Editor	Don Domina	KCØDE
Monday Net Mgr	Joe Rickard	NØJAR
Picnic	Mel Schroth	KW4MEL
PIO	Jeff Kennedy	NK4AA
POTA	Bob Lewis	N8GU
Programs	Brian Darley	KM4YHZ
Projects	Tom Muye	AC4TM
Property Control	Don Domina	KCØDE
Safety Director	Robert Ficarelli	KM4OWA
QSL Manager	Bob Pantazes	W2ARP
Social	Brittany McDonnell	KJ4OYP
Special Events	Brian Darley	KM4YHZ
SK Estates	Brian Darley	KM4YHZ
Swap Shop	Carmine Vetrano	K1CJV
Facilities Coord.	Joe Ryan	N3NAI
Technical	Robert Pantazes	W2ARP
Trailer	Tom Muye	AC4TM
VE Team Lead	Larry Stiles	WF4LS
Webmaster	Tom Muye	AC4TM
W4LX Trustee	Tom Muye	AC4TM

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (FMARC) is to train and assist Ham Radio Operators to carry on the tradition of amateur radio; and, members of FMARC are dedicated to providing education to the general public about the history, operation, functions and benefits of the Amateur Radio Service.

PURPOSE

The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was formed to provide members the pleasure and benefits of the association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio.

OBJECTIVES

- To facilitate the exchange of information
- To promote knowledge of electronics and amateur radio
- To promote good radio operating practices
- To further the art of Amateur Radio
- To sponsor and promote activities relating to amateur radio
- To render public service during emergencies.
- To participate in appropriate community activities.

MODULATOR

The Modulator is published by the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc. to inform our members of Club Events and educational or training opportunities.

Members of FMARC are invited to submit articles for the Modulator. The Modulator is the official voice of FMARC. Submissions of articles or advertisements for the Modulator must be made not later than the 15th of each month.

Questions or comments can be e-mailed to:

Modulator@fmarc.net

Show 'MODULATOR' as the Subject

Or send by postal mail to:

FMARC

Attn: Modulator Editor

P.O. Box 061183

Fort Myers, FL 33906

NOW AT THE SWAP SHOP

Questions? Contact Joe: n3nai@hotmail.com

Now At the Swap Shop

FT 450D W/HARBOR FREIGHT HARD CASE
\$450.00
POWER SUPPLY AND DIGITAL WINLINK ETC
AND ORIGINAL BOX
FT 450D PS AND ORIGINAL BOX \$400.00
TYT 9000D ONLY TESTED \$100.00
KW TUNERS SEVERAL MAKES \$125.00
300 WATT TUNERS MOSTLY MFJ \$60 TO \$75
1 ICOM 1 YAESU AUTOTUNERS \$100.00
BENCHER KEY \$70.00
2M 220 AND 440 CHINA MOBILE \$60.00
HTS CHINA AND JAPAN MADE \$15 TO 50.00
DUAL BAND OLDER MOBILES \$40.00
SEVERAL DATA MOBILES \$40.00
POWER SUPPLIES 2.5 7. 10.12&13. 20 AND 35
AMP PS \$10 TO \$80
WE JUST GOT IN SEVERAL HF RADIOS 1
HYBRID PRICE TBD
SCANNERS \$10 TO 20
ANTENNAS
MOSLEY TRIBAND \$150, VHF BEAM LOOKS
USABLE \$15.00 . DUAL BAND J POLES \$15
\$15 IS LESS THAN
21 FOOT 18 FOOT EASY WAY CRANK UP
TOWER LIKE CLUB USED TO
USE FIELD DAY \$125.00
SOME USED COAX \$.10 CENTS FOOT PLUS
\$1 DOLLAR EACH
NEW AND USED
RG 58 \$.25 FT. RG 8X \$.45 FT CRIMP
CONNECTORS WITH 8X PURCHASE ONLY
\$4.00
CABLE,SAT AND TV COAX \$.10 NEW USED
DONATION
TV TWIN LEAD \$.20 FT GOOD FOR ROLLUP J
POLES
OTHER BASE ANTENNAS NEED TO IDENTIFY
BUT REASONABLE
PRICE .

FOR SALE

Yaesu FT 2980 80W 2M Transceiver
Like New \$125
Icom 4100 2M/440 D-Star Transceiver
Like New \$300
Contact Dave Sheppard W2PAX
swftn@fmarc.net

Swap Shop

Open 2nd and Last Saturday 11AM to 1PM
And don't forget you can "tailgate" for no charge

FMARC Swap Shop
Waterway Park
5820 Poetry Ln
North Fort Myers, FL

The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
is a US 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
Membership consists of both Federal
Communication Commission (FCC) and
Internationally-licensed amateur radio
operators who volunteer themselves,
their communications experience and
equipment in support of emergency and
community services.

Our club meets once a month at the
Lee County Emergency Operations
Center, 2675 Ortiz Avenue, Fort Myers,
FL 33905. We hold our General meeting
on the last Tuesday of every month at
7:00 pm.

Friends, interested persons and Hams
from all over meet for reports from
committee chairpersons, announcements
of present and future activity, old business
issues, any new business for the club,
and a program after the meeting.

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

Conduct Exams for new Amateur Radio Licenses and License Upgrades on the 2nd Thursday of the month. 6:30 pm at the Lee County EOC. More information is available on the Club's Web Site: www.fmarc.net, under the "License & Education" tab.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Lee County Emergency Operations Center, 2675 Ortiz Avenue, Ft Myers FL at 7:00 PM. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss plans and issues for the club, as well as go over new business, old business and pending items. All members are encouraged to attend.

ARES®

Our ARES Group meets at 7 pm on the third Tuesday of each month (except November & December) at the Lee County Emergency Operations Center, 2675 Ortiz Avenue, Ft Myers FL
For Info on ARES in Lee County, please contact:

Rich Schnieders KR4PI
ARES Emergency Coordinator
ec@leeares.com
www.aresraces-leecountyfl.org

SWAP SHOP

A gathering of Hams and friends is held on the 2nd & Last Saturdays at 11:00 AM at the clubhouse in Waterway Park located at 5820 Poetry Lane, North Fort Myers. Sell, swap and bargain for ham radio gear.

GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM

The LAST Tuesday of each month. Members, friends, and interested persons meet at the Lee County Emergency Operations Center, 2675 Ortiz Avenue, Ft Myers FL, at 7:00 PM for reports from all committee chairpersons, announcements of present and future activity, old business issues, any new business for the club, and a program or presentation.

The Club's Web Site is

<http://www.FMARC.net>

FMARC Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/631010997863075>

FMARC Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/FMARCFort-Myers-Amateur-Radio-Club-Inc-1509463055951816>

FMARC Hamfest Website

<http://swflhamfest.info/>

SOME LOCAL NETS

Loggerhead Net

146.790 on
Sunday 7:30pm

Windmill Net

28.475 USB on
Sunday 9:00pm

Southwest Florida Traffic Net

146.685 Mon-Sat
10:00am

Catholic Charities

Net 2nd Monday
at 11:00 am

FMARC Club Net

Linked Repeaters
Monday 7:00pm

The Newbie Net

146.820 - Monday
Approx. 7:45pm

ARES® NET

Linked Sys. Wed 7:00pm

Buck & a Quarter Net

224.52 MHz Wed 7:30pm

Yaesu Fusion Net (DN Mode)

On the 444.675 and
444.750
Linked Repeaters
Wednesday, 8:00 pm.

The DMR Net

KF5IW Repeater,
Talk Group 311261, Slot 2
2nd and 4th Thursday, 7:00pm.

The D-Star Net

443.450 Repeater
1st and 3rd Thursday, 7:00pm.

Cape Coral Gabfest

146.490 simplex,
Thursday, 8:00pm

Guide to Member Benefits



ARRL Online | www.arrl.org/myarrl

Create an online ARRL Member account, and get access to members-only benefits. Register at www.arrl.org/myARRL. Already registered? Log in at the top of the ARRL website.

■ Magazines | www.arrl.org/qst and www.arrl.org/ota

Members in the US receive a choice of print magazine: *QST*, ARRL's membership journal (12 monthly issues), or *On the Air*, our new magazine for new and beginner-to-intermediate-level radio amateurs (6 bimonthly issues). All members can access the digital editions of *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ* from a web browser and apps available for iOS, Android, and Kindle Fire devices. Members need a valid ARRL account to access ARRL's digital magazines, the Archives and Periodicals Search, and the Product Review Archive.

■ E-Newsletters | www.arrl.org/myarrl

Subscribe to the weekly **ARRL Letter** and a variety of other ARRL e-newsletters and announcements.

■ The ARRL Current Email Newsletter

Members can elect to receive this monthly email within their online profile. Each issue provides a reminder of the available digital magazine issues and highlights articles from all four digital publications, along with podcast overviews, benefit updates, product and publication specials, and more.

■ ARRL Learning Network www.arrl.org/arrl-learning-network

This 30-minute webinar series features member-volunteers covering a variety of topics: technology, operating, and public service. Live presentations are recorded for viewing later.

■ Email Forwarding Service

Email sent to your arrl.net address will be forwarded to any email account you specify.

Technical Information Service | www.arrl.org/tis

Call or email our expert ARRL Technical Information Service specialists for answers to all of your technical and operating questions.

Join or Renew

www.arrl.org/join

Donate

www.arrl.org/donate

Benefits

www.arrl.org/benefits

Shop

www.arrl.org/shop

Advocacy | www.arrl.org/regulatory-advocacy

ARRL supports legislation and regulatory measures that preserve and protect meaningful access to the radio spectrum. Our **ARRL Regulatory Information Branch** answers member questions concerning FCC rules and operating practices. **ARRL's Volunteer Counsel** and **Volunteer Consulting Engineer** programs open the door to assistance with antenna regulation and zoning issues.

Group Benefits* | www.arrl.org/benefits

■ ARRL Ham Radio Equipment Insurance Plan

■ Liberty Mutual Auto and Home Insurance

*US only

Find...

...a License Exam Session | www.arrl.org/exam

...a Licensing Class | www.arrl.org/class

...a Radio Club (ARRL-affiliated) | www.arrl.org/clubs

...a Hamfest or Convention | www.arrl.org/hamfests

Interested in Becoming a Ham?

www.arrl.org/newham

newham@arrl.org | Tel. 1-800-326-3942 (US)

Connect with ARRL

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®

225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1400 USA

1-860-594-0200, Mon. – Fri. 8 AM to 5 PM ET except holidays

FAX 1-860-594-0259, email hq@arrl.org

Contact ARRL: www.arrl.org/contact-arrl



Website: www.arrl.org

Facebook: [@ARRL.org](https://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org)

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Instagram and Instagram TV: [@arrlhq](https://www.instagram.com/arrlhq)

YouTube: [ARRLHQ](https://www.youtube.com/ARRLHQ)

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/american-radio-relay-league

The American Radio Relay League, Inc.

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® in the United States; supports the awareness and growth of Amateur Radio worldwide; advocates for meaningful access to radio spectrum; strives for every member to get involved, get active, and get on the air; encourages radio experimentation and, through its members, advances radio technology and education; and organizes and trains volunteers to serve their communities by providing public service and emergency communications (*ARRL's Vision Statement, adopted in January 2016*).

ARRL is an incorporated, noncommercial association without capital stock chartered under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Its affairs are governed by a Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every 3 years by the general membership. The officers are elected or appointed by the Directors.


ARRL is noncommercial, and no one with a pervasive and continuing conflict of interest is eligible for membership on its Board.

"Of, by, and for the radio amateur." ARRL numbers within its ranks the vast majority of active amateurs in the nation and has a proud history of achievement as the standard-bearer in amateur affairs.

A *bona fide* interest in Amateur Radio is the only essential qualification of membership; an amateur radio license is not a prerequisite, although full voting membership is granted only to licensed amateurs in the US.

Membership inquiries and general correspondence should be addressed to the administrative headquarters: ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, Connecticut 06111-1400 USA.

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Hurricane Seminar Gateway SWFTN 10:00am WinLink Exercise 7:00 AM – 8:00PM
2 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9pm	3 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:00pm Newbie Net Follows after FMARC Net	4 4th of July SWFTN 10:00am 	5 SWFTN 10:00am ARES Net 7pm 220 NET 7:30pm FUSION Net 8:00pm	6 SWFTN 10:00am D-Star Net 7pm LDS Net 7:30pm CC Gabfest 8pm	7 SWFTN 10:00am	8 SWFTN 10:00am WinLink Exercise 7:00 AM – 8:00PM Swap Shop 11:00AM
9 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9pm	10 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:00pm Newbie Net Follows after FMARC Net	11 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Board Meeting In Person and Zoom	12 SWFTN 10:00am ARES Net 7pm 220 NET 7:30pm FUSION Net 8:00pm	13 LICENSE TESTING SWFTN 10:00am DMR Net 7pm LDS Net 7:30pm CC Gabfest 8pm	14 SWFTN 10:00am	15 SWFTN 10:00am WinLink Exercise 7:00 AM – 8:00PM
16 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9pm	17 SWFTN 10:00am QCWC 11:30 FMARC Net 7:00pm Newbie Net Follows after FMARC Net	18 SWFTN 10:00am ARES In Person Meeting 7:00PM	19 SWFTN 10:00am ARES Net 7pm 220 NET 7:30pm FUSION Net 8:00pm	20 SWFTN 10:00am D-Star Net 7pm LDS Net 7:30pm CC Gabfest 8pm	21 SWFTN 10:00am	22 SWFTN 10:00am WinLink Exercise 7:00 AM – 8:00PM
23 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9pm	24 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:00pm Newbie Net Follows after FMARC Net	25 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC General Meeting In Person and Zoom	26 SWFTN 10:00am ARES Net 7pm 220 NET 7:30pm FUSION Net 8:00pm	27 SWFTN 10:00am DMR Net 7pm LDS Net 7:30pm CC Gabfest 8pm	28 SWFTN 10:00am	29 SWFTN 10:00am WinLink Exercise 7:00 AM – 8:00PM Swap Shop 11:00AM
30 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9pm	31 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:00pm Newbie Net Follows after FMARC Net	IMPORTANT NOTE: ALL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE EOC AVAILABILITY. PLEASE CONFIRM THE STATUS AND LOCATION OF A MEETING OR EVENT BEFORE ATTENDING. IN-PERSON MEETING LOCATIONS ARE DESIGNATED IN THE EMAIL THAT ACCOMPANIES THE REMINDER.				