

For Immediate Release  
Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Fort Myers, Florida  
Contact: Daniel Eaton  
Public Information Officer  
pio@fmarc.net  
239-425-7914

## **Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club Features ARISS at Southwest Florida Hamfest**

Fort Myers, FL January 8, 2024 – Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is set to bring the wonders of space communication to students worldwide, offering them a unique opportunity to engage directly with crew members aboard the International Space Station (ISS). This initiative aims to fuel the passion for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers while immersing students in the fascinating world of radio science technology through amateur radio.

As part of this endeavor, the FMARC is inviting enthusiasts and curious minds to learn firsthand the excitement of communicating with the ISS at the Southwest Florida Hamfest. Hosted by the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (FMARC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1957, the Hamfest promises an engaging experience for attendees of all backgrounds.

### **Hamfest Event Details:**

- Date: Friday, January 19th (noon - 5 pm) and Saturday, January 20th (8 am - 3 pm)
- Location: Florida Southwestern College Building U, 8099 College Pkwy, Fort Myers

Visitors at the Southwest Florida Hamfest will have the opportunity to explore the equipment and processes that are involved in talking directly to the ISS, however the ISS will be out of communication range during the event. Whether you're a seasoned ham or simply fascinated by amateur radio, this dynamic event is a golden opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, share stories, and forge new friendships.

### **Highlights of the Southwest Florida Hamfest:**

- Thrilling blend of flea market finds
- FCC license testing
- Captivating workshops

With over 48,000 amateur radio operators in Florida, Hamfest is not just a gathering but a celebration of the vital role amateur radio plays in emergency communications.

**About ARISS-USA:** ARISS-USA, a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit organization, serves as the United States arm of the international ARISS working group. Committed to inspiring, engaging,

and educating youth in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM), ARISS provides once-in-a-lifetime educational opportunities for students to conduct question and answer interviews directly with ISS crew members.

ARISS-USA activities extend across various educational domains, including public and charter schools, universities (K-16), scout groups, museums, libraries, after school programs, and national or international events. Through ARISS connections, students delve into radio waves, space technology, ISS research, science, geography, and the space environment, preparing for the experience over four to six months.

**About Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (FMARC):** Established in 1957, FMARC is dedicated to fostering camaraderie among individuals with a shared passion for Amateur Radio. Committed to promoting electronics and amateur radio knowledge, advocating for good radio operating practices, and advancing the art of Amateur Radio, FMARC creates a vibrant community.

The club actively sponsors and promotes various amateur radio-related activities, provides crucial public service during emergencies, and engages in community initiatives.

For more information about ARISS-USA please visit <https://www.ariss.org/> and for the Southwest Florida Hamfest, please visit <https://swflhamfest.info/> or by email [hamfest@fmarc.net](mailto:hamfest@fmarc.net).

#30#