



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

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club Celebrates Parks on the Air (POTA) Achievement with Coveted Award**

**Fort Myers, FL — May 22, 2025** — The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club is proud to announce its latest recognition in the international *Parks on the Air* (POTA) program: the coveted **Wiggin's Acalypha Award**, honoring dedication to amateur radio and a passion for public lands.

Parks on the Air (POTA) is a global amateur radio initiative that encourages licensed radio operators to set up portable stations in state and national parks, historic sites, and other public lands. Since its launch in 2017, following the success of the ARRL's National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event, POTA has grown into a vibrant community of over 325,000 participants worldwide.

The program promotes outdoor recreation, emergency communication preparedness, and environmental stewardship, all while fostering connections between radio operators across the globe.

### **What Makes POTA Unique?**

- **Activators** operate portable stations from designated parks using handheld, backpack, or mobile equipment. A valid activation requires at least 10 contacts and adherence to park and program rules.
- **Hunters** connect with Activators from anywhere in the world and earn credit based on those logged contacts.
- **Awards** are granted based on contacts made, parks activated or hunted, and modes used—including voice, Morse code, and FT8.

- **Park to Park (P2P)** contacts—when both operators are in different POTA parks—earn special recognition.
- **Technology** plays a key role, with the POTA website (pota.app) offering real-time maps, activator spotting tools, and award tracking.

The **Wiggin's Acalypha Award**, named after a native plant to highlight the program's nature connection, is presented to operators who have either activated or hunted 700 unique POTA reference areas. The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club's achievement underscores its members' dedication to promoting radio communication, exploring the outdoors, and contributing to the broader POTA mission.

Award designs were created by Kathryn Johnston and are automatically issued through the POTA platform, where participants can log in to view and download their certificates.

## Get Involved

Whether you're an experienced ham or just getting started, Parks on the Air offers a rewarding way to combine technical skill, exploration, and community engagement. Learn more at [www.parksontheair.com](http://www.parksontheair.com) and join a movement that connects people, parks, and radios around the world.

The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (FMARC), established 1957, supports the exchange of knowledge, fosters camaraderie among hobbyists, and emphasizes public service during emergencies. The club, an ARRL affiliate, promotes the art and science of amateur radio through various activities, training, and initiatives. For more information about FMARC, visit [www.fmarc.net](http://www.fmarc.net) or [pota@fmarc.net](mailto:pota@fmarc.net).