

For Immediate Release
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Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club Elevates Education at Annual Hamfest

FORT MYERS, FL – August 4, 2025 – The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (FMARC) is proud to announce its annual Hamfest, an event dedicated to fostering knowledge, skill, and community within the fascinating world of amateur radio. This year's Hamfest places a strong emphasis on **educational opportunities** for both aspiring and experienced radio enthusiasts.

The Hamfest, an essential gathering for "hams" and the curious alike, provides a unique platform to explore the diverse facets of amateur radio. Beyond the traditional swap meet and vendor displays, FMARC is committed to offering a robust educational program designed to demystify this critical communication tool and inspire future generations of operators.

"Our Hamfest isn't just about buying and selling equipment; it's a celebration of learning and discovery," says Carmine Ventrano, President, FMARC. "We believe in empowering individuals with the knowledge and skills to engage with amateur radio, whether for emergency preparedness, scientific exploration, or simply connecting with people across the globe."

Educational Highlights at this Year's Hamfest Include:

- **FCC License Testing:** FMARC, in partnership with certified Volunteer Examiners (VEs), will offer **free FCC Amateur Radio License Exams** for all three license classes (Technician, General, and Amateur Extra). This is a prime opportunity for anyone interested in obtaining their license or upgrading their existing privileges. Pre-registration for exams is highly encouraged.
- **Interactive Workshops and Demonstrations:** Attendees can participate in Zoom presentations by Industry Leaders covering a range of topics, from basic radio theory and antenna construction to digital modes and satellite communication. Experts will be on hand to demonstrate practical applications of amateur radio.
- **Emergency Communications Training:** Learn about the vital role amateur radio plays in disaster relief and public service. Sessions will highlight how amateur radio operators provide crucial communication links when traditional infrastructure fails.
- **Youth Engagement Programs:** Special activities and resources will be available for younger attendees, aiming to spark an interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through engaging radio-related experiences. This may include

opportunities to learn about Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) and how it connects students with astronauts.

The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club has a long-standing commitment to education and public service, consistently offering monthly license exam sessions and various learning initiatives throughout the year. The Hamfest serves as a cornerstone of this commitment, bringing together the entire amateur radio community for a weekend of shared knowledge and passion.

Whether you're a seasoned operator, a curious newcomer, or simply looking for a family-friendly event with a focus on technology and communication, the FMARC Hamfest offers a wealth of learning opportunities.

Event Details:

- **What:** Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
- **When:** Friday, January 16, 2026, from noon to 5 p.m., and Saturday, January 17, 2026, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.]
- **Where:** Florida Southwestern State College, Building U, 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33901
- **Cost:** \$10 at the door

For more information, to pre-register for license exams, or to learn about becoming a member of the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, please visit www.FMARC.net. To learn more about Hamfest visit <http://swflhamfest.com> or contact the Hamfest Chairman, hamfest@fmarc.net, or call 941-275-9145.

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