

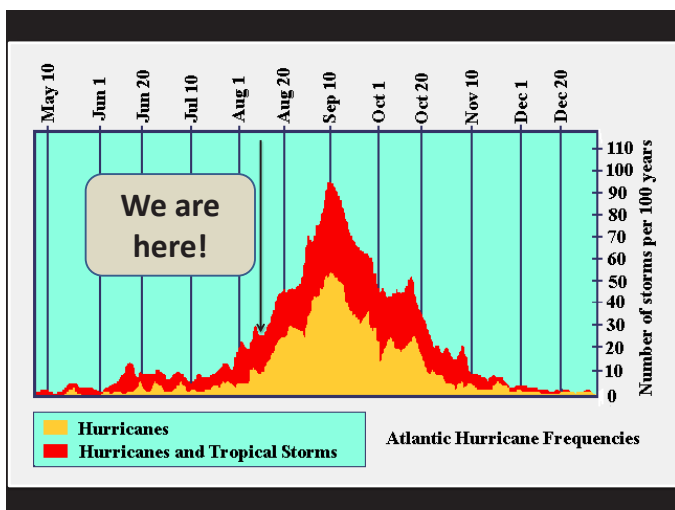


Are You Ready for the Storm?

At press time there were three tropical storms in the Atlantic and we are still weeks away from the traditional peak of our hurricane season. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website, www.ready.gov/hurricanes gives a detailed list of preparedness tips we should review. Most of us remember the burst of storm activity in the 2004-2005 timeframe but as time passes, we can become complacent or simply just forget the lessons-learned from our experiences. Preparedness should be an attitude especially for those of us who have multiple responsibilities to home, work and volunteer support to other agencies. Planning is essential so you are effective in protecting your family, property and becoming available to help others in the community. Some FEMA tips to consider: Build an emergency kit and have a family communication plan. Your emergency kit is tailored to your own family situation (consider special needs of small children or pets) but

the basics should be to have enough food and water to support your family for at least 72 hours. Add to your kit personal hygiene items, a first aid kit, glasses, prescription medicines, radio equipment, radio/cell phone chargers, lighting and batteries. The kit should be assembled and portable in case you have to evacuate the area. Along with the emergency kit, you should have important real estate papers, insurance records, identification, banking records and some cash gathered together in a waterproof portable container. A photo-survey of your possessions and home exterior saved to a USB thumb drive is an excellent means of documenting property for insurance purposes. The family communications plan is simply a tool to notify those outside a disaster area where you will be before a storm hits. If you evacuate to a shelter or another location, update your plan so family and friends are aware of your situation before communication services are

impacted by a storm. Next, examine your property surroundings. Walk around your house/property and evaluate what can blow around and cause damage: Are there trees that should be trimmed back before the storm? You'll need to secure windows with shutters, gather loose deck/lawn items and secure them inside, ensure the garage door can lock securely. Do have any antennas, tower to be lowered that require time to secure before the storm? If you have to leave home for a shelter or other location, secure the utilities to your home by turning off the water and gas. As you evacuate besides the emergency kit and records, bring a sleeping bag and blanket and a complete change of clothing. By now you get the idea getting ready for a storm is more than just a run to the store to gather beer, toilet paper and chips – it really does require planning and time to prepare.



Meet Us On the Following...

On Wednesday evenings at 7:15 local, the Central Brevard County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Net meets on IRARC's 145.370 MHz repeater Down 600 KHz (tone 156.7 Hz). After the net, informal ops on 147.42 MHz simplex. Sunday at 3 PM on 147.37 MHz repeater for the Half-Time Net. On the web point your browser to: <http://irarc.ham-radio-op.net>

IRARC's Spurious Emissions is published monthly. Comments and articles are welcomed, contact Dave Lerret, KU0R, payloadone@earthlink.net

Club Meeting News

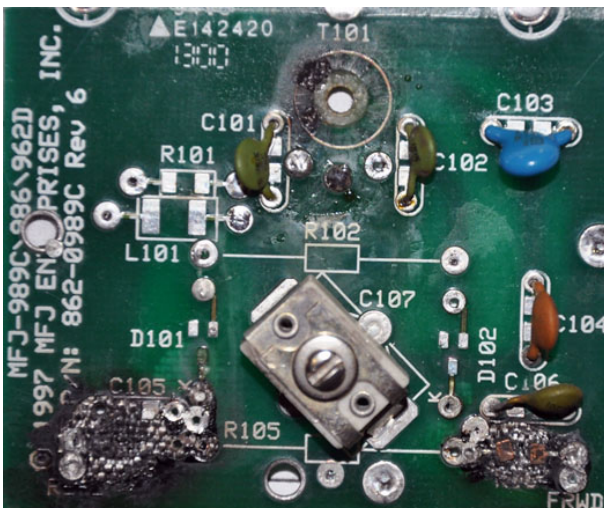
The August 2nd Meeting was called to order by President Steve Luchuk, N4UTQ at 7:30 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 22 present including 3 visitors. Marty Grove, KJ4LQX presented the treasurer's report and the report was approved by the membership. Secretary Kevin Raulins, KK4DNI reported the Meeting Minutes for June (July minutes were in the newsletter) Both June and July's meeting Minutes were approved by the membership. Dave Lerret, KU0R requested assistance from the membership body with stories for the newsletter. Dave Slawson, K4UZM presented the educational committee report noting a new class in mid-September will begin for aspiring Technicians, and reminded the membership about our Tech Net held at 7PM-8PM every Friday night. Bob Kisko, N4VO presented the technical report noting both VHF repeaters were operational and Ecolink was fully functional on both machines. It was also mentioned that the antenna tuner located in the shack was damaged by a high-power arc of some kind. Stan Harrell, KJ4NUV (IRARC EC) reported a tropical event in the Southeast Caribbean

that is likely to be unpredictable once it reaches the gulf and warned all to begin emergency preparations early. Stan also informed the club that Brevard County has not participated in the ARRL National Traffic System (NTS) in a number of years, and that the frequencies for these nets would be posted on the website as soon as possible for our attendance. Red Cross liaison Greg O'Neill, AB4GO reported the preparations for activation by the American Red Cross should the imposing tropical wave in the Caribbean be predicted to make landfall within a 5-day period, and included a reminder about an upcoming American Red Cross volunteer meeting to be held on August 20th. The Skywarn Coordinator, Dave Slawson K4UZM reported two weather incidents last month requiring Skywarn net activation. In other news, the LISATS club has asked (and has been given) permission to utilize our 88 repeater for an emergency fallback should their main repeater go down. The President, Steve Luchuk, N4UTQ informed the membership that we currently do not have a Community Service Coordinator. We were also reminded that the

Melbourne Hamfest is coming up in October and the ticket prices were reported to have been decreased to \$7 each. Steve Luchuk, N4UTQ gave a thorough presentation on radiation types and emergency radioactivity detection using surplus Civil Defense equipment. Norm Wilford, W1TLZ won \$12.00 in the 50/50 drawing, which he donated to the club funds. There was no old business for the club. During a call for new business, Jan Ferguson, KU4ZO informed the membership that TARC has started requesting its members attempt to use Emergency power during the regular emergency practice nets and suggested we consider trying the same. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM



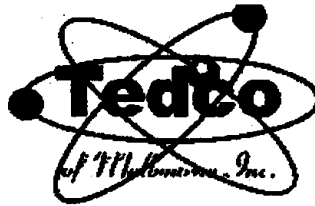
Strays -n- Stuff



Bob Kisko, N4VO observed damage to Steve Luchuk's antenna tuner on the tuner's metering circuit board due to high voltages (likely high power with high VSWRs) Don't let this happen to you!

- IRARC Financial Report for August 2012
Checking: \$4489, Equipment Fund: \$863
- Upcoming Satellite Terminal Tests will be on Aug 11th and 25th with setup at 9 AM.
- Mark your calendars for the 47th Melbourne Hamfest on October 13 and 14.
- The Florida Hurricane net meets at 2100L on Mondays. KJ4OXT DSTAR 147.030 MHz repeater or via Internet Reflector 34A.
- Are you RadioActive? Check the IRARC website calendar at <http://irarc.ham-radio-op.net/> for upcoming events, photos and links to other local clubs.

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