

# Indian River Amateur Radio Club's Spurious Emissions

Sep 2014

Nr : 02

Volume: XL



## United States Coast Guard Birthday Special Event Station

On Saturday, the 2nd of August, the combined clubs of Skywatchers and Communicators Amateur Radio Club and Indian River Amateur Radio Club sponsored a highly successful Special Event Station celebrating the 224th Birthday of the United States Coast Guard at CG Station Port Canaveral. This event was held concurrent with a huge picnic sponsored by the Officers, Men and Women of Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral for all the Coast Guard personnel, friends, and families in the area. In the excess of 350 men, women and children were served BBQ hog, hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings.

In the true tradition of an Amateur Radio Field Day, the clubs team of HF Operators and Loggers set up two towers, an HF Radio and Linear Amplifier, 20 meter dipole antenna and began operations around 10 AM Saturday morning.

Within a very short period of time, a "pile-up" existed that continued, non-stop, until the team terminated operations about 4:30 PM. At last count, some 248 contacts had been logged.

The day began with Del (AK4EY) (and his grandson) escorting Ozzy (N4SZO) and Bears 1 from LISATS Point, where it had spent the night after the Delta launch Friday evening, to the Coast Guard Station on the north side of the Port. Dave (K4UZM) arrived at the CG Station with his tower trailer, table, Tent, chairs, 20 meter antenna, power cords, fans, coax cabling and the miscellaneous hardware needed for our station. Shortly, thereafter, Rick (KF4FNZ) brought his Internet Hot Spot equipment and Steve (N4UTZ) arrived with the HF radio and Linear Amplifier.

It took the better part of two hours to get the tower trailer

positioned, raised and anchored where the Coast Guard desired it to be placed, get the Bears 1 tower erected and the dipole antenna elevated to about 25 foot or so strung between these two towers. The antenna's broadside was facing sort of NNW/SSE so we expected to get good coverage up and down the East Coast. However, some surprises were in store for the operators!

Contacts ranged from Central Texas, Illinois, Southeast Michigan to the East Coast and up into Canada were typical. A mobile marine contact was unique as was contacts in Southern California and Northern Minnesota. From a Coastie's perspective, the most notable was the contact was made by Steve (N4UTQ) 7 miles north of Grand Haven, Michigan (Coast Guard City - USA). Then, all of a sudden, Melbourne, FL was heard from and later, a visitor to our station



**USCG Special Event operating tent location at Port Canaveral with dipole antenna supported by K4UZM's trailer**

## Meet Us On the Following...

On Wednesday at 7:15 PM local, the Central Brevard County ARES net meets on IRARC's 145.370 MHz repeater (tone 156.7 Hz). After the net, informal ops/rag chew happens on 147.42 MHz simplex. Sunday Half Time Net meets at 3 PM on the 37 repeater - you don't have to be a football fan to join. 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](mailto:payloadone@earthlink.net)

reported that he had heard us all the way from Kissimmee to Cocoa on his mobile rig. Where did that Ground Wave come from?

A number of HAMs stopped to say hello as well as a retired Coast Guard Admiral who was attending the Coast Guard Picnic. Bears 1 had some visitors who wished to see how the Amateur Radio community worked with the County Emergency Operations Center. Thanks, Ozzy (N4SZO) for all your time and professional assistance.

A Special Thanks to the Operators and Loggers who braved the 95+ degree heat who made the day so successful. Our Club President, Steve (N4UTQ) deserves special recognition as he operated and/or logged more than anyone else. He could pull the calling contact's call sign out of the noise when the rest of us would say "K...What? Say again you call sign." Good Job, Steve!

Special Recognition to Dave (K4UZM) and his wife, Cathy for the logging software loading on

the computers, the design of the Special Event certificate we will be sending to the contacts, for all the background assistance (site survey, equipment, set-up, tear-down, Bears 1), and for the all help needed to set this event up.

For all those operators and loggers not directly mentioned, please accept my apology. Next time, we will use an Operators/Loggers Sign-In Log as well as visitors log so that we recognize those who contribute their time and effort to make all of us in Amateur Radio look good.

Del Anderson (AK4EY)

Total Contacts Worked: 248

Total States Worked: 39

Total Countries Worked: 9



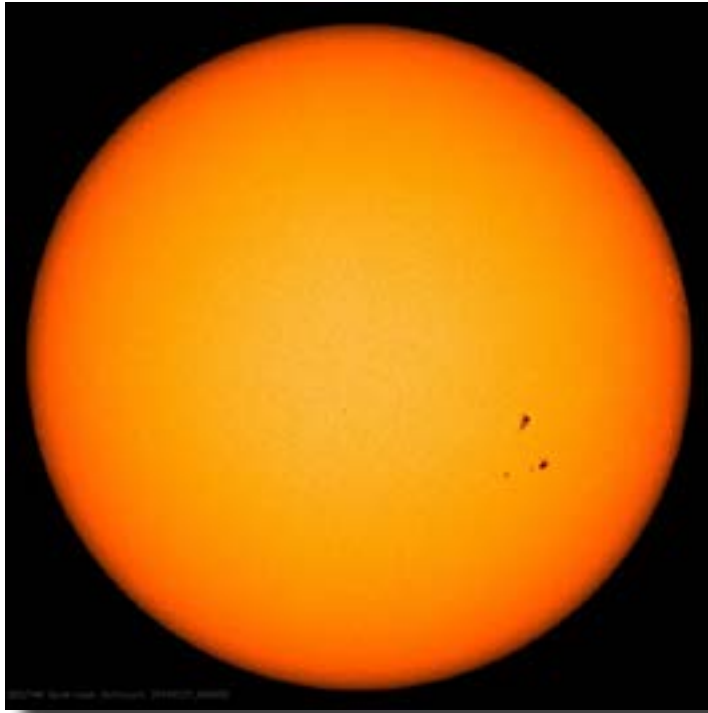
**The heat was definitely on with Del Anderson, AK4EY operating the HF radio and linear (600 watts) during the Coast Guard Special Event.**



**Del Anderson (lt), AK4EY running the radio with Steve Luchuk, N4UTQ (rt) performing the logging role by entering the contacts into the computer**



**The BEARS vehicle parked in front of two USCG ships stationed at Port Canaveral. The BEARS antenna tower supported the west end of the special event dipole antenna**



Sun activity from the Solar Dynamics Observatory as of 0130 UTC, 02 Sep 2014. This channel display is from the SDO Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager. - photo courtesy of <http://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov>.

Product: 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table  
 Issued: 2014 Sep 01 0657 UTC  
<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/wwire.html>

UTC Date	Radio Flux 10.7 cm	Planetary A Index	Largest Kp Index
2014 Sep 02	130	8	3
2014 Sep 03	125	8	3
2014 Sep 04	120	10	4
2014 Sep 05	115	8	3
2014 Sep 06	110	10	4
2014 Sep 07	105	8	3
2014 Sep 08	105	12	4
2014 Sep 09	105	5	2
2014 Sep 10	110	5	2
2014 Sep 11	115	5	2
2014 Sep 12	115	5	2
2014 Sep 13	115	8	3
2014 Sep 14	110	5	2
2014 Sep 15	110	5	2
2014 Sep 16	120	5	2
2014 Sep 17	130	5	2
2014 Sep 18	130	5	2
2014 Sep 19	130	5	2
2014 Sep 20	135	5	2
2014 Sep 21	135	5	2
2014 Sep 22	130	5	2
2014 Sep 23	125	5	2
2014 Sep 24	120	5	2
2014 Sep 25	115	12	4
2014 Sep 26	115	18	4
2014 Sep 27	125	15	4

## Strays -n- Stuff



Three years in a row should be enough to define a trend .... .. Dr. Armando Delgado, KN4JN (our IRARC CW ace-in-the-hole) was caught operating voice during Field Day 2014

- IRARC Financial Report for August 2014  
 Checking: \$4461, Equipment Fund: \$1161.
- We are now at the statistical peak of the Atlantic hurricane season - stay prepared!
- NTS Training Net Fridays at 7:15 PM on 145.37 MHz repeater - learn how to pass traffic.
- Join the Space Coast QRP Group. They meet at a Brevard local park or other listed location - see website at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Space\\_Coast\\_QRP\\_Group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Space_Coast_QRP_Group/)
- 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.

## Club Meeting News

Our August 7th meeting was promptly called to order by President Steve Luchuk (N4UTQ) at 7:30 PM, and was immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Secretary's minutes and Treasurer's report were also read and approved. There were a total of nineteen (19) attendees including 1 visitor.

Vice President Del Anderson (AK4EY) reported the need for shelter managers (not just shelter operators), so if you find this to be your calling, please contact a club officer. He also reviewed the upcoming presentations for our general meetings and it looks like we are in for a real treat. The Coast Guard Day special event station went really well and we hope to improve our presence in future years.

The handi-talkie radio giveaway drawing was performed and the lucky winner was KK4DAG – Gail Stewart-Iles. Congratulations Gail!

Our technical committee gave us a status update of our repeater equipment and all is well with our repeaters, except the 88 still has a slight problem with sensitivity. In addition Morse code classes on the 88 repeater are being planned for anyone interested in learning or practicing their CW.

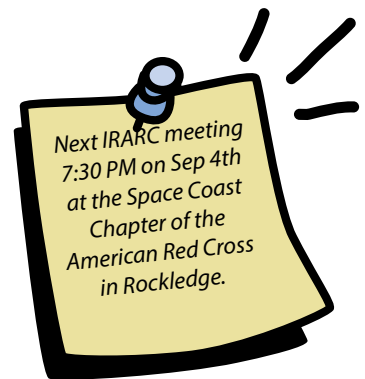
Stan (KJ4NUV) gave us an update on the current situation with BEARS, along with some news stating that we will now need to report our number of people checking in to ARES/Skywarn and other Emergency-based nets to Ray Kasis. We also should find a volunteer for a PR person to take pictures, write stories and submit to publications and newspapers. If anyone is interested, please let Stan or a club officer know.

We had no old business and no new business to discuss, so we moved on to a great presentation given by Ernie Baldini

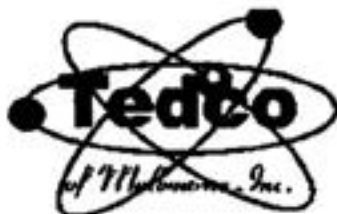
(K4RBD) on how ATV works, and a little history on the LISATS club and activities. If you are curious about ATV or wish to partake in the LISATS launch activities, please see Ernie. During his presentation, Ernie answered the big question why amateur digital television has had difficulty taking hold: expensive equipment and a lack of standards the radio community can adopt.

Our 50/50 drawing winner was KJ4IMP which had a total pot of \$32.00, and he decided to donate the funds to the club.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.



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