

# Indian River Amateur Radio Club's Spurious Emissions

Sep 2013

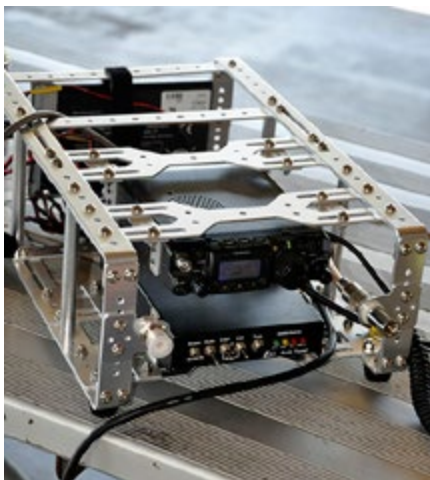
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## Space Coast QRP Group - Invasion of the Buddipoles

IRARC members showed up in force for a meeting of the Space Coast QRP Group at Kiwanis Island on September 21st. The Brevard QRP Group meets every third Saturday at a designated park/locale around 9 AM and operate QRP for a few hours. Last April it seemed loop antennas were all the rage but at the September gathering there was one loop antenna but 3 Buddipoles operating in three different configurations: Vertical



**Dave Slawson, K4UZM's compact backpack frame holding a Yaesu FT-817 and a lithium battery**

base loaded, a vee vertical on 20 meters and a standard horizontal dipole on 17 meters. The bud-dipoles are designed for portable operations and are ideal antennas for QRP ops. Running low power (QRP) is officially defined as 5 watts or less requiring different operating skills since your signal is not a "boomer" and you may be competing with other operating locations using higher power with directional antennas. The QRP operator has to have a feel for where the distant station is looking for signals on the dial. QRP ops will stress your patience since you may not get a reply on the first call. The rewards of QRP ops are many: operations are normally portable without the large power supplies required for 100 watt class transceivers, the challenge of working under a whole new class of operations and development of a new set of operating skills applicable for emergency ops. Come join us in the QRP chase at [http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Space\\_Coast\\_QRP\\_Group/info](http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Space_Coast_QRP_Group/info).



**Rick Watson, KF4FNZ noting the diversity of operations at the September Space Coast QRP Group.**



**Sandy Reed, AK4BZ, running his Elecraft K2 into a buddipole vertical antenna at the QRP gathering.**



**Ron Eike, KA3PSO operating an Elecraft KX3 into an Alex Loop antenna gets some help with the phone mode setting**

## Meet Us On the Following...

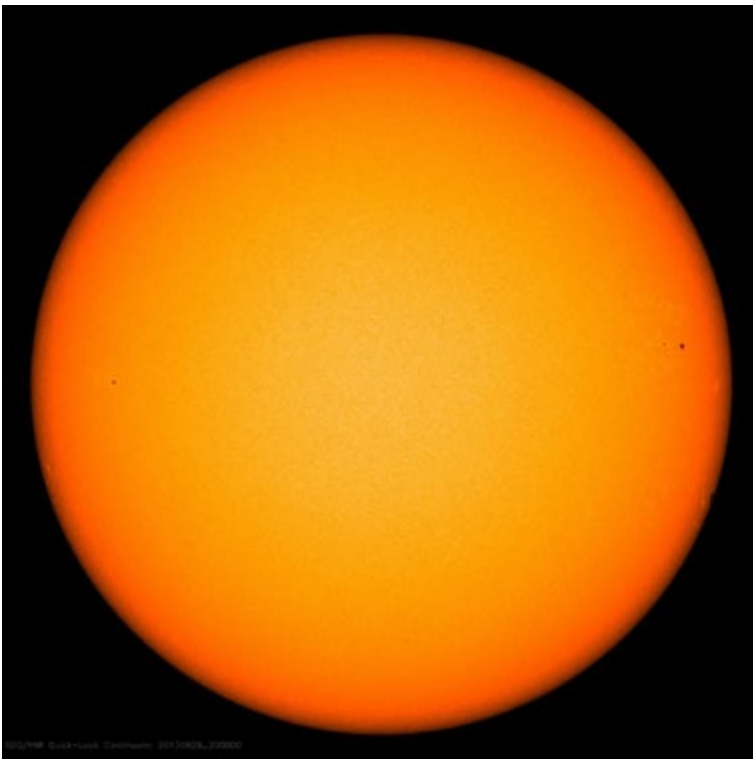
On Wednesday at 7:15 PM local, the Central Brevard County ARES net meets on IRARC's 145.370 MHz repeater (tone 156.7 Hz). After the net, informal ops/rag chew happens on 147.42 MHz simplex. Sunday Half Time Net meets at 3 PM on the 37 repeater - you don't have to be a football fan to join. On the web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

# Buddipole Snapshots



A trifecta of buddipole antennas set up at Kiwanis Island for the Space Coast QRP meeting on September 21st. From left to right: Vertical arranged antenna used by Sandy, AF4BZ, Vertical Vee antenna used by Greg AB4GO on 20 meters and a 17 meter dipole used by Dave Lerret, KU0R. Dave had good success working 17 meter CW QRP with contacts into Columbia, England, and Belarus.



## Flux Density Values in sfu for 2013-09-29 at 17:00 UTC

Julian Day Number	2456565.197
Carrington Rotation Number	2142.056
Observed Flux Density	104.3
Flux Density Adjusted for 1 A.U.	104.6
URSI Series D Flux, Adj. x 0.9	94.2

source: [www.spaceweather.ca](http://www.spaceweather.ca)

Sun activity from the Solar Dynamics Observatory as of 2000 UTC, 29 Sep 2013. This channel display is from the SDO Heliioseismic and Magnetic Imager. - photo courtesy of <http://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov>.

## Club Meeting News

The September 5th meeting was called to order by President Steve Luchuk, N4UTQ at 7:30 PM, and was immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Visitors recognized and welcomed were KG4LHG, Shannon Tomerlin, N2GRS Glenn Smith and KC5RF, Terry VanVolkenburg. JD, W4GNC gave an update on Norm, W1TLZ. Norm is hospitalized at the Melbourne Life Care Center and is welcoming visitors. The minutes for the July meeting were not ready for reading so a motion to table the reading was made and approved by the membership. John N3RCV read the treasurer's report and the report was approved.

Vice President Dave (KU0R) made a request for future articles to be incorporated into the newsletter.

Technical Committee Chairman, Bob Kisko (N4VO) gave us a status update of our repeater equipment. Echolink is operational on our 37 repeater. Bob reported progress on the 70 cm repeater with FDOT programming the repeater with our call sign and PL tone. The antenna will be

installed at a 130 foot elevation.

EC Stan Harrell (KJ4NUV) stated the tropics are starting to cook up after a relatively slow start to the hurricane season. BEARS is discussing a one day tailgate event at Wicham Park in Melbourne (date to be announced).

Red Cross liaison Greg (AB4GO) stated there will be a Disaster Services Technology meeting on Saturday Sep 7th at 1000. We are still awaiting word on satellite terminal delivery to the Space Coast Chapter.

Dave Slawson, K4UZM thanked everyone who has been supporting SKYWARN this season. A new technician training class will begin on Wednesdays 6:30 PM starting September 25th at First United Methodist Church in Cocoa Beach.

Membership was reminded Armando Delgado, KN4JN is accepting nominations for the IRARC 2014-2015 officer terms and names will be presented at the October meeting.

The club discussed installation of a tower for the Red Cross 47 MHz radios - more coordination is required

before we take action. The Melbourne Hamfest in Oct 12 and 13th, we may get a table for membership use. The Christmas party reservations have been made at Jimmies for Dec 5th, price to be announced soon.

Steve, N4UTQ gave a presentation on unusual propagation modes such as Earth-Moon-Earth and bouncing signals off satellites. Our own Greg O'Neill AB4GO worked the early ECHO satellite in 1960 by reflecting RF from a mylar balloon in orbit. Other modes such as long duration echo were discussed. Our 50/50 drawing winner was Dave (KU0R) which had a pot of \$7.50. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.



## Strays -n- Stuff



**Who does not like a little QRP every once in a while? Greg O'Neill AB4GO working 20 meters phone with 20 watts from his Yaesu FT-897 into a buddypole at the Brevard QRP Group meeting Kiwani's Island Park on Sep 21st.**

- IRARC Financial Report for Sep 2013  
Checking: \$4118, Equipment Fund: \$996.
- Satellite Tests are on hold pending a new terminal replacement and training -stay tuned!
- 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.

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YAESU

WEB PAGE:  
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Hours:  
MON - FRI 9 AM - 5 PM  
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TED - W4LR - GENERAL MGR.

DOTTIE - OFFICE MANAGER