



SPURIOUS EMISSIONS

INDIAN RIVER ARC

JULY, 2018

P.O. BOX 237285, COCOA FLORIDA 32923-7285

CLUB MINUTES

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

ARMANDO DELGADO
KN4JN

President Dave KU0R began the meeting at 1930 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the Pledge, visitors Chris Muir, who is expecting his technician license next week, and his dad were recognized.

AI N4TME, former IRARC President, was recognized as a silent key.

The minutes for the June meeting were published in the newsletter. A motion was heard to approve the meeting minutes, a second was heard and the June meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.

Larry KK4WDD, our Treasurer, reported we have \$1779.39 in the checking account and \$1777.55 in the equipment fund. A motion was heard to accept the Treasurer's report for audit, a second was heard and the Treasurer's report was approved by acclamation.

Vice President Viron N4VEP, reported that Field Day was a success.

President Dave reported for the technical committee that all repeaters are running, and the Yaseu controllers are going to be replaced with the Bridgecom controllers. The first go-kit is ready and the second

is under construction. One kit will be at Wuesthoff hospital and the other here at the red cross. There are four antennas waiting to be installed both at the hospital and the Red Cross. We may go ahead and install the antennas at the Red Cross on the fixed tower on the south building.

Upcoming events: July 21st QRP at the park on the Merritt Island side of the 520 bridge, and on August 4th is the Coast Guard Special Event station.

Del AK4EY spoke about the Coast Guard Special Event station. The Coast Guard holds their picnic on their anniversary and they may have the two Coast Guard cutters there for tours. BEARS may bring the BEARS1 vehicle for public awareness, and Dwaine KM4HCN will bring the request for the vehicle to the next BEARS meeting. The general plan is to set up at 10:00am and wrap up at about 4pm. An option is to run multiple stations and do computer logging to facilitate contact certificates. Last year participants made 70 or 80 contacts.

Next Dave presented a synopsis of the Field Day activities. This was the first Field Day we operated 100% solar power. We had some

bad weather on Saturday, but we were able to operate all the bands, including 10m. Dave operated CW until midnight. The logging program worked well; battery power was sufficient, and the food was excellent. We had problems with radio interference, and some folks had trouble operating radios they were not familiar with. Better antennas may have helped and we missed some easy points by not copying the Field Day message. Battling the big guns gave us a lot of trouble. Next year we may consider higher power, but we would need to plan carefully to prevent interference.

Dwaine KM4HCN reported they took BEARS1 to Merritt Square Mall for Field Day and the storm destroyed the awning on the vehicle. They made 5 Field Day contacts and had several visitors stop by and take the tour and leave with some literature about the local radio clubs.

Prospective ham Chris Muir was the winner of the 50-50 drawing.

A motion adjourn occurred at 2020 and was moved and approved.

Respectfully Submitted
Steve Luchuk Secretary

HAPPENINGS

As a beta test, the popular Reverse Beacon Network ([RBN](#)) [has announced](#) that it's now offering a separate telnet feed for FT8 spots (telnet.reversebeacon.net port 7001), in addition to the current spot feed (telnet.reversebeacon.net port 7000), which will be repurposed to handle only CW and RTTY spots. In addition, a beta version of Aggregator Version 5

that can handle FT8 spots received from *WSJT-X* will be available on the *RBN* website, with instructions on how *RBN* node operators can configure their nodes to spot FT8 call signs on one or more bands; this will not interfere with the ability to spot CW and RTTY call signs.

The [slide presentations from the](#)

[Dayton 2018 Contest University have been posted](#). According to the presentation by Tim, K3LR, over the past 12 years that the Dayton Contest University has been held, over 6000 students have attended

Traditional ferrite material, whether it's in the form of beads, toroids, or rods, all looks the

same but can exhibit vastly different characteristics. Keeping ferrite on hand for projects has meant carefully labeling. DX Engineering has made working with ferrites less error prone with a simple idea: color-coding all ferrite materials available from them. They've also put together assortments of ferrite applicable to particular tasks, such as "general RF suppression" versus "linear amplifier RF

HAPPENINGS

suppression." [Check the DX Engineering website for more information.](#)

Just ahead is the [KH1/KH7Z Baker Island DXpedition](#), which commemorates the 81st anniversary of aviator Amelia Earhart's disappearance on July 2, 1937, near Baker and Howland islands. The DXpedition is scheduled to fire up around 0000 UTC on June 28, with eight [operating positions active](#) on all open bands. The team will be on the air around the clock — and on 20 meters continuously — for the following 10 days. Baker Island is the fifth Most-Wanted DXCC entity, [according to Club Log](#).

[Irish Islands IOTA Tour 2018](#)

A reminder that the EIDX Group has already begun to activate all Irish IOTA Groups. Using the 'Echo Juliet' prefix, EJDXG will be QRV from IOTA EU-006, EU-007, EU-103 and EU-121 this summer.

From the KRFO web site:

Where did the term HAM come from? In 1908 the Harvard Radio Club was home to the first wireless amateur radio transmitters. They were operated by young men with the last names of Hyman, Almy and Murray. H.A.M. There is also a belief that a very early radio operator in Minneapolis used the name HAM. So there's at least two theories.

FEMA's Email Subscriptions: Treasure Trove of Resources and Info

FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency offers a wealth of information, updates and alerts on a wide range of emergency and disaster response topics by *email subscription*. These topical advisories and alerts are relevant to ARES participants, and readily subscribed to by clicking [here](#).

As part of upgrades to the ARES® program, ARRL will phase out traditional hard-copy report forms later this year in favor of an online system, [ARES® Connect](#) — a new volunteer management, communication, and reporting system. The system, in beta testing since March in four ARRL sections with large ARES organi-

zations, will allow ARES members to log information for ARRL Field Organization handling but does not change how ARES serves partner organizations. ARES training also is due for enhancement.

A poorly worded online solicitation seeking donations to support medical costs for an ill youngster is **not** from ARRL and is a scam! Some members have reported receiving an email with the subject line "Help Support Dawn," dated on or about June 30, stating that "Dawn" is the critically ill son of an ARRL member and requires urgent surgery. The attempt to solicit funds through GoFundMe and PayPal may be aimed at collecting personal and credit card information. ARRL members are urged not to repost, forward, or respond to this request.

ON THE AIR

FIFA World Cup 2018 Russia - SoccerJ Jun 1-Jul 15, 0001Z-2359Z, **18FWC, Various, RUSSIAN FEDERATION. Union of Radio Amateurs of Russia. All bands, all modes. QSL. upload information to fwc18.hamlogs.net, NA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION. Special call sign in Russia **18FWC. Inviting others to participate; other countries are asked to use **18FIFA. For complete details contact Aliy at ua6yw@mail.ru

USS San Diego Jul 14-Jul 22, 0000Z-0000Z, W2NMY, Babylon, NY. Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club. 18.150 14.235 7.255 3.910; All bands, All modes. Certificate. Club Log or direct to GSBARC, P.O. Box 1356, West Babylon, NY 11704. We will be operating as W2NMY which is a historical Fire Island call sign used by the Navy and US Coast Guard.

EAA Warbirds of America AirVenture Celebration Jul 22-Jul 29, 1500Z-1500Z, W9W, Oshkosh, WI. EAA Warbirds of America. 28.425 21.235 14.250 7.225. QSL. Ed Finnegan - K9ECF, 69 Mohawk, Cary, IL 60013.

77th Annual Convention of the National Speleological Society Jul 28-Aug 4, 1800Z-1800Z, K7V, Helena, MT. National Speleological Society. 14.285 7.195. QSL. Bill AE6JV, 16345 Englewood Ave, Los Gatos, CA 95032. Sat Jul 28 1800-0200Z Sun 1500-0200Z; as available rest of the week. nss2018.caves.org

US Coast Guard 228th Birthday Aug 3-Aug 4, 1400Z-0400Z, K1CG, Port Angeles, WA. Coast Guard CW Operators Association. 21.052 14.052 7.052 3.552. QSL. See website

for, QSL, information. www.qrz.com/db/k1cg

V6J Team will be active from **Ta Island**, Mortlock (Nomoi) Islands, IOTA OC - 254, 19 - 31 July 2018. They will operate on HF Bands. QSL via JP3AYQ.

Roly, ZL1BQD will be active from **Papua New Guinea** as P29RR, 1 - 26 July 2018. He will operate on HF Bands and will concentrate on FT8 mode.

300th Anniversary of the Founding of New Orleans Jul 14, 1400Z-2300Z, N30, Metairie, LA. The Rare Ones of New Orleans. 21.074 14.074, 28.420 21.300 14.260 7.260. QSL. Harry Rees, 2917 Clifford Dr., Metairie, LA 70002. Certificate available for working 8 Rare Ones. <https://therareonesofneworleans.loga.us>

The annual [Original 13 Colonies Special Event](#) will mark its 10th anniversary this year. The event gets under way on **July 1 at 1300 UTC and runs through July 8 at 0400 UTC**.

Special event stations with 1 × 1 call signs will represent the original 13 US colonies, plus bonus stations WM3PEN in Philadelphia and GB13COL in Durham, England. Each special event station will have its own QRZ.com profile page. Participating stations try to contact all 13 Colony Stations plus the two bonus stations. Call signs and their respective states are K2A, New York; K2B, Virginia; K2C, Rhode Island; K2D, Connecticut; K2E, Delaware; K2F, Maryland; K2G, Georgia; K2H, Massachusetts; K2I, New Jersey; K2J, North Carolina; K2K, New Hampshire; K2L, South Carolina, and K2M, Pennsylvania.

Field Day 2018 Report by Steve Luchuck, N4UTQ

Again, this year we operated Field Day as 3A designation using two phone stations and a CW station. We also attempted solar power only, and it worked without much difficulty. Like in the past two years, we set up at the Club House and it was hot. Anticipating the heat, we strategically located extra fans. We had prepared for this event by grilling a copious amount of ribs, hamburgers and hot dogs and Dave KUOR had prepared a nice batch of potato salad under direction of Jane, his wife. Nobody got a picture of me grilling 6 pounds of bacon using a screw driver. Dave set up his CW station in the office area co-located with the file server we used for logging. He brought a stand-alone rigid dipole on a tripod, and spent most of the first part of the contest troubleshooting the antenna. We had planned for a third antenna using an un-un and 70 feet of wire hoisted up about 60 feet on a nearby tree and after some antenna frustration, Dave agreed to give it a try. The remaining problem was finding a coax long enough to reach around the front of the Club House, go in under a garage door and through the wall into the office area where Dave was operating. With our technical issues resolved, we proceed to attack the contest. Like I sent out in my Saturday evening email that night, we seem to fall into this same trap year after year. I have since decided to research the phenomenon a little further.

Each Field Day we check our equipment from the PTT on the microphone to the antenna feed point and we always have confidence in our system through measurements. But standard Filed Day rigging does not seem to work very well, at least at the beginning of the contest. So what is the problem? We typically use a method called hunt and pounce to search for contacts. We tune up and down the band looking for a signal we can hear, listen a bit and see if the station we hear is the one holding the frequency. In advance of the

contact we set up his call, class and location in the logging program to make sure we have not already worked him.

The way the bands work is that if you can hear a station, that means the propagation has established a connection between you and the other station. If you are both using similar equipment, any station you can hear will also be able to hear you at about the same strength. At 6 meters, 10 and 15 meters, this rule wanders a little, but on 20 meters it usually applies.

Now we have a station we can hear clearly and he owns the frequency and have him all set up in the logging program; then we wait for his QRZ, or invitation for stations to call him. During contests, hunt and pounce stations just throw out their call sign and see if the other station comes back with their callsign. Non-contesters sometimes have to be reminded that you do not need to give his callsign first. So here we are calling this guy and calling this guy and he always picks up some other station. Why is he not hearing us? Is there something wrong with our antenna? Is there something wrong with modulation? There is no explanation why he can not hear us. There is always the possibility that ALL those other stations that are getting through are using high power, but all of them: Seriously? Now if your antenna happens to be a beam, its going to help a bit, but then you have to spend the whole contest moving your antenna around. So now its 3pm and you only have four or five contacts in the log and the back of your transceiver is hot!

This has always been frustrating and it would be really nice to figure out what the problem is so as to take corrective action next Field Day. A hint might

be the fact that by 1pm on Sunday is always a hot time to operate since they seem to hear you a lot better and you can often work that guy you could not work on Saturday on the first try. It would be easy to jump to the conclusion that everyone else is running power and that these big-straps have just run out of other big-straps to work so now they are willing to work us weak 100 watt stations.

Around 4:30pm on Saturday the sky turned black and a microburst dropped the outside temperature from 94 degrees down to 68 degrees. Amazingly this did little to cool of the Club House and you could stand just outside the door in the nice cool breeze and feel the furnace air wafting out of the Club House.

When all was said and done, the final tally was over 250 contacts and everybody that wanted to operate got their chance. As always, the bacon was totally consumed. On Sunday we ran out of burgers and began throwing hot dogs onto the roller grill, so nobody went hungry. We over planned the ribs, so several of us took them home. Dave's CW operation saved us from an embarrassing score, nobody got hurt and we did not damage anything of any value. So we have to conclude that Field Day 2018 was a success!



W1AW CW PRACTICE TRANSMISSIONS

7 PM EST Slow CW : 5-15 WPM
Mon, Wed, Fri

7 PM EST Fast CW: 35-10 WPM
Tue, Thu

FREQUENCIES:

1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475,
14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675,
28.0675, 50.350, 147.555

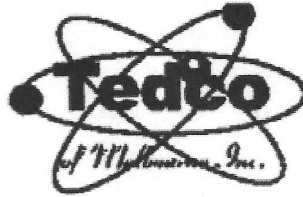


Editor's Note:

Send comments about the Newsletter or to contribute information or articles to the Editor's email address:

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