

# NEWSLETTER

## SPURIOUS EMISSIONS

INDIAN RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC., NOVEMBER 1992

Direct correspondence to 597 Capri Road, Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931-3011

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Gene Sirota W4JMX - 453 6618	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> Armando Delgado KN4JN - 452 3762	<b>SECRETARY/EDITOR</b> Dick McKlveen W4YWA - 783 7074	<b>TREASURER</b> Ralph Netterstrom N4AKA - 783 6179	<b>DIRECTOR</b> Gordon Seaward KA4FFA - 783 9203	<b>TECH COMMITTEE</b> Mark Weber AB4IX - 777 8059	<b>RFI COMMITTEE</b> Walt Hicks K4PQ - 259 0425
<b>EDUCATION COMMITTEE</b> Dick Weller/Doug Farnsworth WN4K/N4MPD-784 3272/777 1567	<b>ARES REPRESENTATIVE</b> Ray Kassis N4LEM-632 1510	<b>TELEPHONE COMMITTEE</b> Bill Eppley W2SDB - 784 2118	<b>CHIEF CONTROL OPERATOR</b> Norm Wilford W1TLZ - 453 7269	<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b> Vern Commander N0FES - 452 9534	<b>TRUSTEE W4NLX</b> Ted Wallace W4LJB - 636 0232	

IRARC repeaters (all W4NLX): 146.28 in, 146.88 out; 144.77 in, 145.37 out; 449.65 in, 444.65 out; Digipeater, 145.01

## A HAPPY, HEALTHY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

(That includes you too, Omar!)

### Something New Has Been added

The fact sheet enclosed with your newsletter this month was originally intended for new members only - a sort of a familiarization course. Anyway, after it was finished and I looked it over, it was determined that much of the information contained therein might be of help even to those of you who are dyed-in-the-wool veterans of IRARC. After checking it, you will note that most of the guidance and tips were periodically published in this paper as reminders about more or less important matters.

It would seem that every member would have some use for the information presented. For this reason, don't you think it might be wise to put this paper in a safe place where it may be checked when the need arises?

Should you note an error or omission, please call me at 783-7074. I will appreciate hearing from you.

### The ARRL Corner

By Carl Zelich, AA4MI  
ARRL Assistant Director, SE Division

A proposed law to protect amateur radio frequencies gained majority support in the House of Representatives and more than one-third support in the Senate before the 102nd Congress adjourned.

The proposal, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act (H.R. 73/S. 1372), has been enthusiastically backed by the nation's approximately half a million amateur radio operators. To date, 219 congressional representatives and 35 senators have signed on as co-sponsors, more than satisfying ARRL's initial objective of gaining broad bipartisan support.

"With half the House and more than a third of the Senate already co-sponsors, amateur radio has a big head start in working with the 103rd Congress next year," says ARRL President George Wilson,

(Continued, next page, Col 1)

### Holiday Banquet

The annual IRARC holiday banquet will be held on December 3rd. This affair, which is staged in lieu of the regular monthly meeting, will take place at Quincy's Steak House on the SR 520 Causeway, Merritt Island. Festivities are scheduled to begin at 7:00 PM.

Members, their wives and other guests are cordially invited. If you have not as yet signed up to attend, contact Dick Weller at 784-3272.

There will be gifts galore and seasonal music. Don't miss it!

### OFFICERS FOR 1993

Because there will be no regular business meeting in December, the annual election of officers was conducted at the November meeting. There being no nominations from the floor, the following members were elected by acclamation to serve in posts indicated for the year 1993: President - Carl Zelich, AA4MI; Vice President - Armando Delgado, KN4JN; Secretary - Dick McKlveen, W4YWA; Treasurer - Ralph Netterstrom, N4AKA; and Director - Gordon Seaward, KA4FFA.

### THE GATHERING OF THE CLAN

The November meeting proved to be one of the better ones. The 74 members and 7 visitors who showed up will undoubtedly agree. Ernie Baldini, K4RBD, delivered an extremely interesting and informative talk about happenings during the first hours after Hurricane Andrew laid waste to parts of south Florida. His presentation was aided and abetted with display of view-graph slides. This made it easier for one to understand and appreciate the devastation.

Cont'd next page, Col 3

### HURRICANE ANDREW

By Clayton Bennett, KA4NIW

On Sunday afternoon, August 23, 1992, the day before Hurricane Andrew was due to hit south Florida, I began to get prepared for doing some communication work just in case it was needed here in Brevard county. I soon received a phone call from my National Guard commander informing me that my Guard unit was being activated for the hurricane. I didn't know at that time what the next five weeks would be like in my life.

I began my military career in 1969 during the peak of the Vietnam war. I was working at Harris Government Systems in Palm Bay when I got my draft notice. I enlisted in the Air Force and I was able to get into aircraft avionics for a career field. I was in Tech school in Biloxi, Miss. when Hurricane Camille hit and I was on clean up details for two weeks. Camille had much more destructive damage confined to a smaller area than the damage that Andrew did. I served in the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, and California. I gave it my best four years and came back to my job at Harris.

In 1983, ten years after my discharge, I joined the Florida Army National Guard, 705th M.P. Co. in Cocoa, FL. It is a Military Police Unit with weekend drills and two week summer camps. It was different with security assignments and playing war games during summer camps.

We were activated for Desert Storm on December 4, 1990 to operate a prisoner of war camp in Saudi Arabia and we returned home in May 1991. I thought that was the last of being activated for a while until that Sunday afternoon phone call. As I was packing my military gear I decided to throw in my Kenwood HT, a 12 volt power

Cont'd next page, Col 1

## ARRL Corner (Cont'd)

W4OYL. "The fact that we have this many friends on the hill does not go unnoticed at the Federal Communications Commission."

"ARRL members did a wonderful job of explaining the need for this bill to their legislators," Wilson says. "The league's Washington team followed up with literally hundreds of in-person briefings that gave our elected representatives a much clearer picture of amateur radio and its importance as a natural resource."

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act was introduced in the House by Representative Jim Cooper (D-TN) and in the Senate by Al Gore (D-TN) after passage of the FCC Authorization Act of 1988. That Act includes a provision strongly encouraging and supporting the amateur radio service and its emergency communications efforts. It requires government agencies to "take into account the valuable contributions made by amateur radio operators when considering actions affecting the amateur radio service."

While not involving congress in managing the radio spectrum, a regulatory function of the FCC, the proposed legislation requires the FCC not to diminish the amount of radio frequencies already available for amateur radio, and to provide equivalent replacement spectrum for any frequencies that are reallocated.

\* \* \*

**ANDREW** - Cont'd from first page

pack and a J pole antenna, just in case I might need it. We stayed at the N.G. armory Sunday night and headed for south Florida Monday afternoon after the hurricane went through the Miami area. We ended up at the Cleveland Indians spring training camp in Homestead. Our MP's were assigned to assist the Homestead Police Department. I was assigned to work in the Orderly Room.

Tuesday night a high ranking NCO who was also a ham, found out I had brought my equipment and authorized me to set up a station and call myself "Homestead Military Police Station". I could barely get out with my weak signal. I was able to get a better antenna from Dade E.O.C. and once it was mounted on top of the stadium I had a much better signal which made traffic handling easier. Homestead Police Department and Florida City Police Department was not always able to get into the repeater and talk to Dade E.O.C. My location enabled me to be able to pass traffic between Dade E.O.C. and the two police departments.

We also set up the military radio, which is a FM transceiver operating simplex from 30 to 75 Mhz. We had a military net in the local area between military vehicles and several base stations for normal day to day military information. Our MP's downtown had the Motorola saber HT's which operated just above the two meter band. Here I was operating two radios simultaneously using different radio procedures for each.

Traffic was very heavy on the Dade E.O.C. repeater, going 24 hours a day. Most of the traffic was to and from the shelters and food distribution centers. I

had to monitor it constantly. I will never forget the one shelter manager begging for medical supplies for the shelter victims. Then a nurse and a doctor got on the radio and read off a list of medical supplies that they needed. It sounded like an inventory of a hospital emergency room. The shelters were in a desperate situation. They were running out of food, water, medical supplies, and patience. They also did not have any bathroom facilities until portable potties were delivered.

We soon moved our two meter station to another repeater that was for military use only which made handling military traffic a lot smoother. Dade E.O.C. still would call me to handle emergency traffic. I was on the air from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. I was able to teach a few of my fellow soldiers how to operate the radio while I slept.

Don, AF4Z, and John, AB4ED, brought me a deep cycle battery, and a battery charger. I also had my Kenwood mobile rig, a ringo antenna, and extra coax sent to me. I was really set up now. After about two weeks of operating the ham station telephone service was slowly being restored in the area and information being passed on ham bands was beginning to slow down.

Our Motorola HT's had a very limited range of a few miles, much shorter than the range of our military patrols. Most of the time, they could not talk to one another. I did the MARS conversion on my Kenwood so I could talk to the Motorolas, since our MP's were dealing with life threatening situations. I was now operating a high power base station relaying messages between our units in the field and using military radio to dispatch Homestead Police to our MP's when they made an arrest. (I had a lot of visitors coming by to see my radio setup.)

I will never forget Hurricane Andrew as long as I live. The military did not have good, reliable communications immediately after the storm. They relied on ham radio to get the job done until the military command units were activated and up and running. As it always is, the Red Cross, E.O.C.'s, and other emergency relief agencies would not have been able to communicate after the hurricane without Amateur Radio.

\* \* \*

**Good Works.** The American Cancer Society has informed IRARC members who participated in the Society's "Making Strides" charity event that the communications furnished by the volunteers was greatly appreciated. Ira Bickham, K8HRR, did an outstanding job coordinating the overall communications effort. Others involved in this worthwhile event were: Jim Bayless, W4BAL; Rob Anderson, KB0CAL; Bill Farrell, WD4NPT; Pat Moore, N4PRZ; Dave Glenn, KD4SFR; and George Link, KC4YEW. A hearty and sincere "Thank You" to all!

\* \* \*

**More Good Works.** We also thank Gene Sirota, W4JMX; Pat Moore, N4PRZ; Jack Elliott, W4DXZ; Bill Parton, KO4XW; and Vern Commander, NOFES for their helpful services in providing commo for The Audobon Society's Ulumay Wildlife Project Challenge on Saturday, October 24th. Vern Commander coordinated the effort. FB!

## The Gathering (Cont'd)

The minutes of the October meeting, as published in the October edition of the newsletter, were approved as published.

The Treasurer indicated a cash balance of \$8442.78. Members present approved his report as submitted.

Ernie Bsaldini, K4RBD, reporting for the Joe Rubino Scholarship Fund, announced that about \$6500 was currently available. He stated the first scholarships would be awarded in May 1993. Correspondence has been sent to school counselors about this. The deadline for submission of applications is February 1st.

Carl Zelich, AA4MI, asked that members who participated in amateur assistance in the Andrew situation and who have not already been awarded an ARRL PSC certificate sign a sheet that was passed amongst the attendees.

The Chair announced that the club meeting in December would take place at Quincy's (see box, first page).

The Chairman of the nominating committee, Bill Eppley, W2SDB, announced the slate of officers for 1993 and the annual election of officers was held (see article on page 1).

Stan Schreiber, K5TLR, was the winner of the annual turkey raffle. Runner-up prizes went to Kelsey Lawrence, W4GED; Gordon Seaward, KA4FFA; Alex Belkin, N4ZEF; and Tom Sullivan, WA3CDV.

\* \* \*

**Free! Free!** All you have to do is pick it up in Cocoa Beach. It's a 40 meter folded dipole in good condition. Just call Gloria at 783-2944.

\* \* \*

**Public Service Commendations.** (*The following information was submitted by Carl Zelich, AA4MI*). ARRL PSC certificates have been awarded to the following IRARC members for services rendered in support of Hurricane Andrew: Dick Weller, WN4K; Juanita Weller, N4USO; Ted Wallace, W4LJB; Dave Nelson, N4HNW; Ernie Baldini, K4RBD; Van VanStavern, N4ZEL; John Millhouse, WD4NQQ; Rob Anderson, KB0CAL; John Anderson, W4GCC; Roy Durso, W6THC; Norm Wilford, W1TLZ; Barney Saunders, W4PMH; Jack Elliott, W4DXZ; Bill Brown, W4KMZ; Jim Bayless, W4BAL; Phil Blaha, KA3YBG; Orville Potter, WD4HIQ; Gene Sirota, W4JMX; and Ray Kassis, N4LEM. Carl still holds a PSC for award to Clayton Bennett, KA4NHW. Others are undoubtedly deserving of an award and names of those eligible should be forwarded to Carl.

\* \* \*

**Membership Stuff.** At press time, 426 members were enrolled. We are pleased to welcome General members Suzy Carpenter, AC4MT; Dick Stauffer, K4DWW, (returnee); and Associate member Ken Carpenter. Finally, the welcome mat is displayed for Repeater members Brenda Simons, KD4SRO; Pat Anderson, KB6YPI; Dave Page, KD4TLU; Frank McDermott, K1SKQ (returnee); and Rich Ley. Rich's call will be published when received. Control Operators please note.

## More hints, Info, and other guidance for IRARC members

**Free training programs** are usually conducted twice a year at the Cocoa Beach High School. These sessions, which are organized, managed, and manned by club members, are designed to prepare the uninitiated for a General, Technician, or Novice license. How far a student progresses depends on his or her experience, ability, and will to succeed. The courses usually start in January and late August. They last approximately 13 weeks. A single class meeting is convened weekly. A team of IRARC Volunteer Examiners administers tests at the end of the training sessions. This testing is, in effect, a final examination. Students who attend IRARC courses and who manage to secure an FCC license are provided with one free year of membership in the IRARC. If the individual concerned has qualified for a Technician or higher license, he is awarded a membership in the Repeater category. Novices are accepted as General members. Further information regarding this training may be had by contacting Dick Weller, WN4K, at 784-3272 or Doug Farnsworth, N4MPD, at 777-1567.

\*\*\*

**ARRL representation** is available locally. A member of the IRARC is an ARRL official and, as such, is in a position to provide reliable information and help members in dealing with this prestigious national ham organization. Carl Zelich, AA4MI, is the ARRL Assistant Director, Southeast Division. You can call Carl at 452-6410.

\*\*\*

**For Sale and Want ads** may be placed in the club's newsletter on a space available basis. There is no charge. Just contact the editor at 783-7074.

\*\*\*

**Telephonic reminders** about upcoming club meetings and other events are initiated by the IRARC Telephone Committee. Members can expect a call at least once per month. Should you desire to have your name removed from the call list, please notify the committee chairman, Bill Eppley, W2SDB, at 783-2118.

\*\*\*

**Membership rosters** are published in the club's newsletter on an annual basis. An abbreviated roster showing Repeater members only is usually published along with the July bulletin whereas a detailed listing of all club members is included in the August edition. Members are urged to advise the club secretary of any discrepancies noted in these or any other documents prepared by or for the club.

\*\*\*

**Speed dial codes** are now assigned Repeater members only on special request. The reason in this instance is the fact that we are running short and believe it is best to assign only to those having a legitimate use for same. It makes no sense, for example, to assign a code to an individual who lives alone and would not be dialing up his home number anyway. Call the club secretary at 783-7074 if you are a Repeater member with a requirement for a number.

**IRARC has special status with ARRL.** In April of 1992, the IRARC was awarded "Special Services Club" (SSC) status by the ARRL. This is a designation reserved for amateur radio clubs in recognition of their outstanding record, including contributions to the community and the Amateur Radio Service. Only about 250 clubs in the United States have been granted this special designation.

\*\*\*

**In Memoriam.** To honor the memory of IRARC members who make outstanding contributions to amateur radio in general and the IRARC in particular, the membership has established the IRARC Memorial Scholarship Foundation. Initially, the membership decided to honor Joe Rubino, WA4MMD, whose accomplishments in support of the IRARC are too numerous to list. To so honor Joe, who is now a Silent Key, the Joe Rubino Memorial Scholarship Fund was established under the aegis of the Foundation. Contributions to this fund are greatly appreciated. It is anticipated that the first scholarship will be awarded to a deserving licensed amateur in 1992. For more information about this Foundation, one should contact Ernie Baldini, K4RBD, at 783-7202.

\*\*\*

**Patch use.** When dialing up a three character code in lieu of a standard 7 digit number, one never uses the asterisk (\*) to bring up the dial tone! This applies to the emergency rapid dial codes shown below as well as the 3-character codes assigned to individual Repeater members. Remember, however, that in all cases the pound sign (#) must be used to bring down the patch. When using the public service numbers listed, be sure and give the called party your exact physical location at time of the call. The 911 computer will come up with the location of the repeater, not the location of you or your automobile. 900 numbers currently programmed in the IRARC autopatch are as follows:

Emergencies only. ....	911
Civil Defense. ....	924
Coast Guard. ....	929
Marine Patrol. ....	910
<b>Police:</b>	
Cape Canaveral. ....	925
Cocoa. ....	913
Cocoa Beach. ....	912
FHP Central Brevard. ....	931
FHP North Brevard. ....	920
FHP South Brevard. ....	932
Indian Harbor Beach. ....	916
Melbourne. ....	914
Melbourne Beach. ....	917
Melbourne Village. ....	918
Palm Bay. ....	919
Rockledge. ....	926
Satellite Beach. ....	915
Sheriff North Brevard. ....	922
Sheriff South Brevard. ....	923
Titusville. ....	921

\*\*\*

**Don't throw this away!** Some day you may wish you had access to it.

**Name Tags.** New members and members not so new, who have not as yet received their free IRARC name badge, are reminded that they can order same at any meeting. Just locate Ted Wallace, W4LJB, and sign up. Ted is usually parked near the Swap Table on the West side of the meeting room.

\*\*\*

**Upgrade exams** are administered by the Space Coast Amateur technical Group on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the FIT in Melbourne. Call 768-8000, ext 8149 or 724-6183 for further information.

\*\*\*

**1992 Call Book** information about North America stations can be had from George Link, KC4YWE. George's phone number is 783-8681. Clint Friend, W4CLV, has both the North American and foreign editions. He can be reached at 453-5425.

\*\*\*

**Door prizes** are routinely given at regular monthly meetings. Names of those eligible for the drawing are taken from the sign-in sheet, so be sure to have your "John Henry" included! A one year subscription to World Radio Magazine is usually one of the goodies given away each month. In order to raise money for door prizes, the club holds a "White Elephant" sale once each year. Members are asked to bring anything they have in excess to their needs to a meeting designated as auction night. Members are also asked to bring some green stuff to that meeting with the idea that they may buy up some of the hardware offered. If you have anything to say or anything to ask about door prizes, Bill Eppley, W2SDB, is the man to consult. Bill's number is 784-2118.

\*\*\*

**ARRL membership** is an important factor when one considers the Amateur Radio Service. The ARRL is the only formally organized entity capable of representing the varied interests of hams. The first class magazine QST, which is published monthly by the ARRL, is "must" reading for all in our hobby. In addition to receipt of this respected publication, members of the ARRL enjoy a host of services rendered including: QSL bureaus; legal advice; mailing lists; ARRL broadcasts for CW practice and dissemination of important bulletins; lobbying in Washington; representation of hams with the FCC and international radio conferences (WARC); handling awards for individuals; maintaining DX CC records; and dozens of other critically important services. In order to maintain the club's SSC ARRL affiliation status, we are required to maintain at least 51% of our membership as ARRL members. If they can afford it, IRARC members are urged to join the ARRL. With no additional cost to members, the IRARC gains \$5 for each new member registered through our Treasurer and \$2 for each renewal routed the same way. If you should have questions about this, please call our Treasurer, Ralph Netterstrom at 783-6179.

# A Fact Sheet for IRARC Members

## *What are we trying to accomplish?*

The purpose of the Indian River Amateur Radio Club (IRARC) is to provide timely and effective communications for the community at large when required in emergency situations and in support of Civil Defense, law enforcement, and special events; facilitate the exchange of information and encourage cooperation amongst members; establish maintain and operate VHF and UHF radio repeater stations in central Brevard County; promote communications-electronics projects and knowledge; provide for the granting of scholarships; encourage fraternalism; improve operating proficiency; and so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest in and welfare of amateur radio in the population at large.

\*\*\*

**The IRARC newsletter**, entitled "Spurious Emissions", is published monthly and sent to all except family members. Additionally, this publication is mailed to the Club Director, ARRL and other designated ARRL officials and, on an exchange basis, with other amateur radio clubs.

Since the newsletter is sent via 3rd class mail, it is incumbent upon members to keep the club secretary aware of any changes of address. 3rd class mail is not forwarded.

\*\*\*

**SMAH/QCWA.** All IRARC members are cordially invited to two of the best luncheons available in the Brevard area. The SMAH congregation meets for an exciting and friendly luncheon at 11 AM each and every Friday at the Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach (by the way, "SMAH" is "HAMS" spelled backwards). The Spaceport Chapter of QCWA meets at the very same place at 11:30 AM on the second Saturday of each month. For more information about SMAH, talk to Gene Sirota, W4JMX, at 453-6618. To find out more about QCWA, get in touch with Orton Duggan at 636-1728.

\*\*\*

**Transportation to meetings.** Club members unable to arrange for transportation to club meetings are urged to contact the club secretary at 783-7074. He will do his best to find someone who can help. We suspect there are some members who find it impossible to participate for this reason.

\*\*\*

**Financial Information** is dispensed by the Treasurer at each meeting. Additionally, a detailed report on IRARC expenses and income is printed in your newsletter on a quarterly basis

\*\*\*

**An IRARC 2 meter net** is convened on the 145.37 repeater at 7:30 P.M. each Wednesday. The purpose of the net is to exchange information amongst local hams and to provide a means for amateurs to buy, sell, or trade electronic equipment.

## REPEATER INFORMATION

The Indian River Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (short title "IRARC") currently operates four repeaters: a Digipeater serving Packet enthusiasts on 145.010 MHz; a general purpose 70 cm machine with autopatch service on 444.65 (plus 5 MHz); and two 2 meter repeaters (145.370 MHz and 146.880 MHz, both minus 600 KHz). There is an operational autopatch on the 145.370 rig at present. Re-installation of a patch on the 146.880 machine is being held in abeyance pending acquisition of a permanent site. Both 2 meter repeaters and the 70 cm job are now located atop the Cape Canaveral Hospital on SR 520, Cocoa Beach. As previously indicated, the 88 machine is temporarily located at this site. Because of the nature of the installation, coverage is not up to IRARC standards.

### IRARC Repeater Policy

The club's repeaters are established as "open" in that any amateur with a Technician or higher license is permitted to operate them. However, autopatch facilities are available only to Repeater members in good standing. Amateurs in the IRARC service area for 60 days or less may be provided access to the patches, but only if access and knock-down is accomplished by a club member.

Use of patches for commercial purposes or for any purpose that can be construed to be connected to a profit making endeavor is prohibited - personal traffic only! Also forbidden is employment of autopatches when commercial telephone communications are conveniently available.

Although repeaters themselves are open equipment, their continued use by local amateurs who are not IRARC members will be discouraged; not only by Control Operators, but by Repeater members as well. Non-members using club equipment will be urged to become Repeater members so as to contribute their fair share to the financial upkeep of club equipment.

### Autopatch procedure

To employ an IRARC patch using a standard 7-digit telephone number: If the repeater is clear of traffic, key up and state "KD4AAA to bring up the patch" (or language to that effect). Press the asterisk (\*) key on the touch-tone pad, release your push to talk switch and wait for a dial tone. When the dial tone is heard, key up once again and punch out the 7-digit telephone number. When using a three digit code, do not use the asterisk; just dial up the three character code. Listen for the called party to come on. When the called party answers, talk as on a simplex circuit. When finished, key up the repeater and punch the pound (#) key; then announce "KD4AAA clear with W4NLX" (or words to that effect). Of course, you use your own call in lieu of "KD4AAA" in the foregoing example. All IRARC repeaters are assigned "W4NLX", so that is always the proper call. The procedure is the same on all club patches.

Your club (assigned call **W4NLX**) meets at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday of each month in building Nr 1, Martin Andersen Senior Center, 1025 Florida Avenue, Rockledge. The Senior Center is situated on the Northwest quadrant of the intersection immediately North of the Rockledge Branch Courthouse. Free coffee and doughnuts are usually served. Members may use a "swap table" located at the meeting place to sell or buy used electronic equipment.

\*\*\*

### Some repeaters accessible locally:

145.170 - Harris ARC, Palm Bay  
145.370 - IRARC, Cocoa Beach  
145.470 - Harris ARC, Palm Bay  
146.610 - PCARS, Melbourne  
146.850 - PCARS, Melbourne  
146.880 - IRARC, Cocoa Beach  
146.910 - TARC, Titusville  
146.940 - K4GCC, N Merritt Island  
147.000 - K4YWC, Melbourne  
147.135 - Brevard Civil Defense  
147.360 - N4LEM, Cocoa  
442.675 - K3QKP, Palm Bay  
444.250 - W4PRK, Cocoa Beach  
444.650 - IRARC, Cocoa Beach

\*\*\*

**Help is usually available.** The IRARC has traditionally managed to provide help to members needing same. If a member should find that assistance is needed to erect or dismantel towers, antennas, and/or other communications-electronics facilities, he or she is free to contact the club's "Assistance Manager". At this time, this official is Dick Weller, WN4K. One may contact Dick at 784-3272. He will do his best to arrange for help from other members.

\*\*\*

**Technical assistance** in measuring the resonant frequency of antennas is available from Larry Loper, W4OS. Larry possesses specialized equipment for this purpose and would be glad to lend a hand. Members may contact Larry at 453-3141.

\*\*\*

**Custom shirts** can be had at reasonable prices. They are embroidered with the club logo, your call sign, and handle. The price of a 50/50 poly/cotton garment in S thru XL is \$24.06 (2X is \$1 extra). 50/50 piquet, S thru XL is \$30.42. Again, size 2X is \$1 extra. All are American made. If you furnish your own shirt, the charge is only \$8.75. Checks should be made payable to "Pike Products". If interested, please make arrangements with George Link, KC4YEW. George can be contacted at 783-8681.

\*\*\*

**Remember! If you should have questions about activities or procedures in the club, call one of the key people listed in the heading of your newsletter. If on the air, most any ham you talk to will be happy to assist. Do not hesitate to ask for help or information.**

(See other side for more)

## RACES Training

The RACES Training Officer, Ira Bickham, K8HRR, has announced RACES training sessions to be conducted starting on November 18th. These sessions will continue to be held at 1900 hours on the third Wednesday of each month at the Bunker. The Bunker is located at 1746 Cedar Street in Rockledge (look for the 400 foot tower). All RACES members and those interested in joining RACES are urged to attend.

\*\*\*

**Disclaimer.** Unless specifically stated otherwise, the content of this document does not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the membership or the Board of Directors, nor does mention of a product or organization imply endorsement.

If definitive credit is given, material contained herein may be republished without written permission.

\*\*\*

**Message received.** Oct 26, From WA4PFK. Subject: Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator. As a result of a meeting at the West Palm Beach hamfest, it is a pleasure to announce that Jim Goldsberry, KD4GR, has been appointed an Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator for the Southern Florida section. This new position is created primarily for the purpose of promoting the formation and maintenance of a cadre of quick response or jump teams throughout the southern Florida section. Those clubs who already have organized jump teams are requested to inform KD4GR who will maintain an active listing. All clubs are asked to give consideration to this effort. It would be an excellent project for those special service clubs who do not already have this capability. There will be more information from KD4GR in the near future. 73. Signed Dick, WA4PFK, and Manny, W4SS. (*The IRARC representative to ARES is Ray Kassis, N4LEM*)

\*\*\*

**Appreciation displayed.** Our outgoing President, Gene Sirota, W4JMX, was afforded a standing ovation at the November meeting. The 74 members present thusly displayed their sincere appreciation for his outstanding job as President during the past two and a half years. FB, Gene!

\*\*\*

**Hamfesting?** You might try the Citrus County affair on for size. It is to be held on January 23rd at the National Guard Armory located on Seven Rivers Drive, just south of the Crystal River airport off route 19 in Crystal River. Admittance is \$4 in advance or \$5 after Jan 9th. For advance tickets, send name and check payable to Sky High Amateur Radio Club to 8810 Maplewood, Inverness, FL 34453. Pick up ticket(s) at door or send SASE.

\*\*\*

**A reminder.** If, after digesting the content of the enclosed "Fact Sheet", you feel that something of importance to the membership has been omitted, please contact the secretary. I have tried to include everything, but even I am not the perfect one! Call!

## Deep Green

Following is a brief financial statement for the first half of IRARC fiscal year '93 (Mar 1 thru August 31, 1992).

<i>Income.</i>	
Dues/Initiation fees . . . . .	\$1138.00
Advertising, newsletter . . . . .	90.00
ARRL, Incoming . . . . .	201.00
Interest, Savings . . . . .	113.16
<b>Total Income . . . . .</b>	<b>\$1542.16</b>

<i>Expenses.</i>	
Door Prizes . . . . .	\$ 93.25
Refreshments . . . . .	129.51
Corp Charter fee . . . . .	61.25
Registration, trailer . . . . .	30.15
ARRL, outgoing . . . . .	227.00
Telephone . . . . .	90.53
Postage, newsletter . . . . .	395.20
Administration, incl postage . . . . .	116.02
Printing, newsletter . . . . .	354.15
Field Day . . . . .	139.51
<b>Total Expenses . . . . .</b>	<b>\$1636.57</b>

Net loss, 1st half FY-93 . . . . .	\$ 94.41
Monetary assets a/o Aug 31 . . . . .	\$8081.84

## O Loyal Heathkit, Over and Out

*A thoughtful, observant, but anonymous person left the following article in my mailbox some time ago. This piece was composed by Jim Hampton, Editor of the Miami Herald. It appeared in that publication on April 5, 1992.*

Has your nervous hand ever applied a soldering iron for the first time to an unfamiliar, but no doubt crucial, part of an electronic kit? Then you've probably built a Heathkit.

If you have, raise your soldering iron with mine in requiem as this paragon of American do-it-yourselfism passes into history. Heathkit, which had grown to include some 400 kits for electronic devices, is quitting the business.

With the end of Heathkit's 45 year life ends a rewarding phase of my own. I'll bet that a flock of you readers also owe personal achievements to this marvelous company.

### *The godfather of bimbos...*

For Heathkit instilled success into literally millions of technical ignoramuses (including me) by telling them: "Just follow our detailed instructions, and you too can build this radio transmitter, or home security system, or personal computer, or color TV."

And, by thunder, you could! And it would work, although you might not fully understand why, or why a resistor resists or a capacitor stores electricity and discharges it when another part says, "Gimme some!"

To build a Heathkit, you needed none of that expertise. You needed only patience (lots). Plus the ability to follow crystal-clear instructions ("Heat the parts to be soldered, ninny, not the solder"). Plus the manual dexterity to mount things where the book told you and to make wiring as neat and direct as feasible.

I built my first Heathkit, a 30-watt CW

(or Morse code) transmitter, in 1953. My "workbench" was the top of my foot locker in an Army barracks at Fort Devens, Mass., near Boston.

I was a private, age 18, attending a 26 week school to become a Morse code interceptor. A kindly sergeant offered to teach radio theory to those of us who, having grasped Morse code, wanted to learn the other required rudiment and get a ham radio license. At Saturday morning's regular inspection, my platoon leader kindly overlooked the nonregulation soldering iron laid out neatly beside my rolled up socks.

### *Factors in kits' demise...*

On weekends the sergeant sometimes took his radio class to Boston's rows of grungy military surplus stores to a place called, yes, Radio Shack. I hear that it since has expanded.

Anyway, before long I had my novice ham license, WN4FDT. My Heathkit's tiny signal emanated from that Fort Devens barracks during every spare hour.

We novices were limited to Morse code, but some of us could read and send Morse fast enough (20 words per minute or more) that we could have passed the commercial license requirement. We delighted in blowing away the higher-class operators who, with their 13-WPM proficiency, ventured into the novice bands to "treat" us beginners to a CW contact.

In the late 1960s, by then holding a general class license (first W4FDT, now W3ERX), I built a complete Heathkit ham station: transmitter, receiver, oscilloscope and other electronic test equipment.

The ham rig worked beautifully, and looked beautiful, for a dozen years. It cost about two-thirds as much as equivalent ready made gear. My hours spent building Heathkits really did define "rewarding".

Later I built an all-Heathkit stereo system. Receiver, amplifier, even speakers, which matched the sound of the popular Acoustic Research mid-sized speakers, but at much less cost.

I reluctantly gave my ham rig to a boys' club when I moved to Miami. My spare time for ham radio had shrunk to inconsequential.

### *A 45 year history...*

One factor in Heathkit's demise was that the price spread between its kits and sore-bought gear shrank too. Simultaneously, the use of integrated circuits mushroomed. These devices pack hundreds of once separate components into a sealed unit the size of a cigarette filter. Where's the fun, or the learning, in assembling that stuff?

But none of that was the fault of those hardy, and ever helpful, souls at Heathkit's headquarters up in Benton Harbor, Mich. they invented, they instructed us dummies, and for 45 years they endured.

Time was when many a night I fell asleep clutching my Heathkit catalog to fuel my dreams. Today, wistful that I never did build that Heathkit color TV, I roll my catalog into a torch to guide this exemplar of American inventiveness to its rightful place in the do-it-yourselfer's Valhalla.

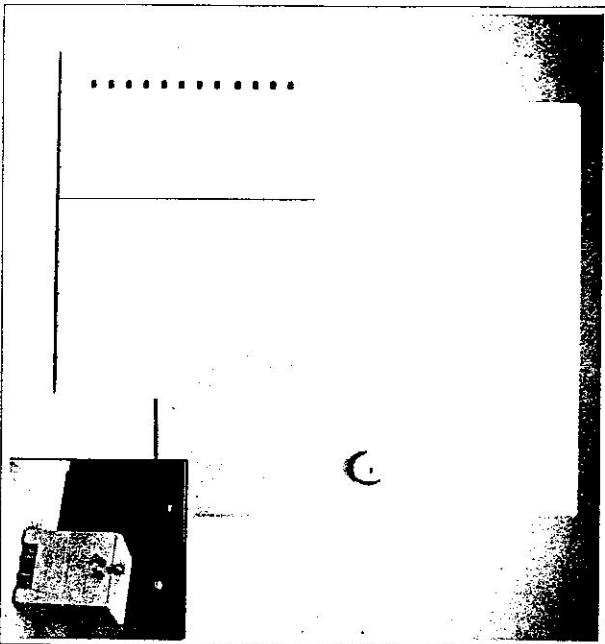
\*\*\*

**Don't forget the dinner on Dec 3rd!**



# Ranger Smart Pack

Downloadable Control/Communicator Package



## Features

- EIGHT FULLY PROGRAMMABLE F.O.I. SUPERVISED ZONES
- DOWNLOADABLE/UPLOADABLE
- ANSWERING MACHINE DEFEAT
- COMPETITOR LOCKOUT FEATURE
- 2 ENTRY/EXIT DELAY TIMES
- SPLIT REPORTING
- BUILT-IN SIREN DRIVER
- BACKLIT KEYPAD
- KEYPAD PROGRAMMABLE
- 7 USER CODES
- OPENINGS/CLOSINGS BY USER NUMBER
- 3 KEYPAD ZONES
- ONE BUTTON ARMING
- SMOKE DETECTOR RESET
- TOUCHTONE OR PULSE DIAL
- FOUR PROGRAMMABLE AUXILIARY OUTPUTS

### Ranger Smart Pack Includes:

- 1 - 8980 Eight Zone Control/Communicator with built-in 1120db Siren Driver
- 1 - 8981 Deluxe Backlit Keypad
- 1 - 16.5V 25VA Transformer
- 1 - 12 Volt 4.5 AH Battery

**Five Year Limited Warranty**



**DISCOUNT ELECTRONICS**  
 437 S. BABCOCK PHONE  
 MELBOURNE, FL. 727-2311

Bulk Rate  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Cocoa, FL  
 Permit No. 150

Indian River Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
 597 Capri Road  
 Cocoa Beach, FL 32931-3011

**TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION  
 PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

KC4CFE-R Dues paid thru 1992  
 Mr Joseph Parker  
 5 West Point Dr  
 Cocoa Beach FL 32931-2329