

From: [Bill Williams](#)
To: [Bill Williams](#)
Subject: Wormhole newsletter
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 11:55:58 AM

News from THE GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

February 2009

Hello Worms!

February's meeting is this weekend, Saturday, February 7th. The weather forecast is a high of 70 so our meeting will be at the Seminole Chamber of Commerce.

***SUPER BOWL / GASPARILLA SPECIAL EVENT STATION ***

I am repeating this item again! It started Wednesday last week so you should already be active but you can start anytime now. FGCARC, the sponsor of the Tampa Bay Hamfest is sponsoring a special event station to celebrate the dual event of the Super Bowl in Tampa on February 1st and the Gasparilla celebration which has been moved to lead into it. Gasparilla has been celebrated in Tampa for more than 100 years. More information about Gasparilla can be found at <http://gasparillapiratefest.com/history.shtml>.

Amateur radio operators in the West Central section of Florida can participate in this special event celebrating Super Bowl and Gasparilla both being held in Tampa at almost the same time. A calendar of the events can be found at: <http://www.Now4Tampa.com>. The Special Event will run from January 28th thru February 11th. Amateurs need only to sign N4T during a contact. Operate on your favorite band and mode for as long or short as you wish. Tell your contacts that requests for QSL cards should be sent with a **SASE** to:

**FGCARC
PO Box 22402
Tampa FL 33622**

For the purposes of QSLing please log all contacts and preferably upload your electronic log in ADIF format to: N4T@FGCARC.ORG If you cannot send an electronic ADIF log, please mail a paper log to:

**FGCARC
PO Box 22402
Tampa FL 33622**

If you are participating please email Tony, N2MFT, with your plans at: lvp@fgarc.org

*** YAHOO IS TRACKING GROUP MEMBERS***

This information from Jack, K4WSB.

If you belong to ANY Yahoo Groups - be aware that Yahoo is now using "Web Beacons" to track every Yahoo Group user. It's similar to cookies, but allows Yahoo to record every website and every group you visit, even when you're not connected to Yahoo. Look at their updated privacy statement at <http://info.yahoo.com/privacy/us/yahoo/details.html> yahoo.com/privacy/us/yahoo/details.html. About half-way down the page, in the section on *cookies*, you will see a link that says *WEB BEACONS*. Click on the phrase "Web Beacons." On the page that opens, on the left find a box entitled "Opt-Out." In that section find "opt-out of interest-matched advertising" link that will let you "opt-out" of their snooping. Click it and then click the opt-out button on the next page.

Note that Yahoo's invasion of your privacy - and your ability to opt-out of it - is not user-specific. It is MACHINE specific. That means you will have to opt-out on every computer (and browser) you use. Please forward this to your other groups. You might complain, too, but I'm not sure if anyone is listening. I remember when they signed all users up to get spam and we had to opt out of that a few years ago.

GORC ALASKA 50th AWARD

To celebrate Alaska's 50 years of Statehood, The Great Outdoors Radio Club (GORC) will issue the, " Alaska 50th Award." To receive this award an amateur radio operator has to have one qso with a ham operating from The State of Alaska anytime during the year of 2009. A few endorsements have been added . The award is free to all GORC Members. All others please send your log and \$3.00 to cover costs of printing and mailing. See the website at http://www.wa3wsj.org/Alaska_50th_Award.html

BROWSER HAM RADIO RELATED ADD ONS

I was reminded of the following software by Mike, KK2DOG by way of Tony, N2MFT. **HamLinks** is a free ham radio toolbar that extends your web browser (Internet Explorer or Firefox) to give ham radio operators quick access to ham radio content. **Propfire** is a web browser extension for Firefox that allows users to view HF propagation conditions on their web browser status bar. Both are available at http://www.n0hr.com/Ham_Radio_Toolbar.htm. **FoxClocks** lets you keep an eye on the time around the world – with lots of options - by putting small clocks in your Firefox status bar. It is available at <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/1117>

SOLAR STORM COULD SHUTDOWN THE US FOR MONTHS

Just when we start looking forward to the coming solar cycle high along comes a spoil sport. A new study from the National Academy of Sciences paid for by NASA outlines grim possibilities on Earth for a worst-case scenario solar storm. Damage to power grids and other communications systems could be catastrophic. The prediction is based in part on major solar storm in 1859, named the Carrington Event, caused telegraph wires to short out in the United States and Europe, igniting widespread fires. It was perhaps the worst in the past 200 years, according to the new study, and with the advent of modern power grids and satellites, much more is at risk.

"A contemporary repetition of the Carrington Event would cause ... extensive social and economic disruptions," the report warns. Power outages would be accompanied by radio blackouts and satellite malfunctions; telecommunications, GPS navigation, banking and finance, and transportation would all be affected. Some problems would correct themselves with the fading of the storm: radio and GPS transmissions could come back online fairly quickly. Other problems would be lasting: a burnt-out multi-ton transformer, for instance, can take weeks or months to repair. The total economic impact in the first year alone could reach \$2 trillion.

When the sun is in the active phase of its 11-year cycle, it can unleash powerful magnetic storms that disable satellites, threaten astronaut safety, and even disrupt communication systems on Earth. The worst storms can knock out power grids by inducing currents that melt transformers. Modern power grids are so interconnected that a big space storm — the type expected to occur about once a century — could cause a cascade of failures that would sweep across the United States, cutting power to 130 million people or more in this country alone, the new report concludes. For the whole story go to <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,478024,00.html> for the FOS NEWS story or to the NASA story here: http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/21jan_severespaceweather.htm?list716348 .

CLUB MEETING

The next meeting is 1100 Saturday morning, February 7, at the Seminole Chamber of Commerce located at 8400 113th Street. That is seven blocks North of Park Blvd on the West side of 113th. Bring your appetite. For those coming to the meeting who cannot hit the repeater we will be monitoring 146.520 simplex, the national calling frequency.

CLUB NETS

Check in on the club net Thursdays at 1930. 442.625 + with a 146.2 tone or the 2M side at 146.850 – also with a tone of 146.2. We are always looking for volunteers to be the net control operator. Anyone interested, talk to one your club officers.

The 10M net meets on Tuesday Nights at 9:00 PM Local Time (0100 GMT) Frequency: 28.405 Mhz + or – QRM Mode: Upper Side Band

LOCAL NETS

MONDAY

1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930	NI4CE	WCF Section VHF ARES	your closest NI4CE repeater
1930	443.050 103.5 monthly	Monday before the fourth Thursday	HEART club net

2000	147.165 136.5	Brandon ARS	from Brandon
TUESDAY			
1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930	145.170 & 442.4 both pl 156.7	Pinellas ACS net	from Clearwater
2000	147.105 146.2	TARC net	from Tampa
2000	28.365 USB	simplex	from Brandon
2100	28.405 USB	simplex	Wormhole net, all invited
2100	28.465 USB	10/10 net	from Orlando

WEDNESDAY			
1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930	52.020 simplex	Suncoast 6'ers	
1930	NI4CE system	WCF Section Digital Info Net	NI4CE system
2000	147.105 146.2	Greater Tampa CERT net	from Tampa
2000	147.550	CARS	from Clearwater
2100	NI4CE system	Tampa Bay Traders Net	non-affiliated

THURSDAY			
1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930	146.850 & 442.625 both pl 146.8	Wormhole	from St Petersburg
1930	224.660	SPARC net	from St Petersburg

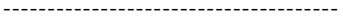
FRIDAY			
1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930	147.360 pl 127.3	METRO Friday Net	from St Petersburg

SATURDAY			
0830	3.911 (7.281 backup)	WCF Section HF Net	
1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930	NI4CE system	WCF YL net	NI4CE system

SUNDAY			
1830	147.060 no tone	SPARC daily net	from St Petersburg
2000	147.550 simplex	550 Simplex Net	non-affiliated, net control is generally in southern
	Pinellas County		
2000	144.250 USB	from the East coast	horizontal orientation
2100	144.210 USB	CARS	vertical orientation

FOR SALE / WANTED

Anyone having something for sale or who might be looking for an item let me know. I will not print phone numbers or email addresses unless specifically told to since this newsletter might end up on the web. The exception is when I get the information off the web. If you are a member of the Wormhole then you have all the information you need on a club roster and if you are not a member .. why not? OK, if you are not a member you can contact me at the email address at the end of this newsletter, I will give you the information to contact the person involved.



Aluminum pipe, was used as an **antenna mast** for 20 years. This mast is too big to fit ROHN towers and most bearings so make sure you can use something this large. 20 feet long, **2 7/8** inch diameter with a wall thickness about **3/16** inch. \$100 Bill AG4QX



ANNUAL EVENTS TO REMEMBER

- Late January Winter Field Day, <http://www.spar-hams.org/index.php>
- March/April MS Walks
- Late April Southeastern VHF Society Conference, <http://www.svhfs.org>
- Late April Walk For Babies (was March of Dimes)
- Late April Mass Casualty Exercises
- Late April Florida QSO Party
- Early May MS 150 bike ride
- May 23 Wormfest 2009
- Mid May NI4CE picnic
- Late June Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/>
- July 3/4 Midnight Run
- October 3rd weekend, JOTA Scout Jamboree-on-the-AIR

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION NETS

HF net time is at 08:30 AM EDT Saturday mornings. Use 3.911 MHz. as the primary frequency with 7.281 MHz. as the alternate frequency.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION ARES VHF NET

Section ARES VHF net every Monday evening at 7:30 PM on the NI4CE repeater system.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION DIGITAL TRAINING NET

West Central Florida Section ARES Digital Training net every Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM on the NI4CE repeater system.

Digital Training Net Format:

- 1st Week - Sound Cards - Discussion Only
 - 2nd Week - PSK-31
 - 3rd Week - SSTV
 - 4th Week - Winlink 2000 Discussion Only
 - 5th Week (when this occurs) - Other Modes
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HAMFESTS

2009

- February 7 Lake Placid, American Legion Post 25, [1490 US 27 North](#), talkin 147.045 (PL 100), contact John Bliss, KF4IZT at 863-452-6600 or email at kf4izt@hotmail.com or visit the website at <http://www.strato.net/~hamradio/hamfest2009.html>
- February 13, 14, 15 Orlando, Hamcation, **Southeastern Division Convention**, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive, Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Talk-in 146.760- no PL. All the information is on the website at <http://hamcation.com/>
- February 21 Brooksville, Brooksville Fairgrounds, 6436 Broad Street, for info John Nejedlo, WB4NOD at wb4nod@tampabay.rr.com or visit the website at <http://www.hcara.org>. \$6 admission, Talk-In on 146.715 (- no tone)
- March 14 Port Charlotte, Charlotte County Fairgrounds, 2333 El Joebean Road (Hwy 776), talkin on 147.255 (PL 136.5), Steve Summers, KI4RUS, 941-639-2335 or check out the flier with map at <http://www.w4dux.org/08%20hamfest%20flyer.pdf>
- April 18 **Tampa, TARCfest, at the TARC clubhouse. Cost is \$2 per person to get in plus \$3 to set up a tailgate. Limited room inside the clubhouse for \$15. Tailgaters setup at 0700 and the public in at 0800. Talkin on the club 147.105 + 146.2 tone. Contact Bill, N4WEB 813-878-7654 for information.**
- May 3 St Petersburg, Lake Maggiore, SPARC, Free, 9th Street S at 38 Avenue. Starts at 0700. Talk-in on 147.060+ no tone.**
- May 15, 16 & 17 **Dayton**, the one in Ohio ;-) www.hamvention.org.
- May 23 Wormfest 2009, Pinellas Park, FREE, Freedom Lake Park, Southeast corner of US 19 and 49th Street, 0800 till... Talkin on 442.625 + or 146.850 – both with a tone of 146.2. For a map and directions see <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org> .**
- August ? **Tampa, TARCfest, at the TARC clubhouse. Cost is \$2 per person to get in plus \$3 to set up a tailgate. Limited room inside the clubhouse for \$15. Tailgaters setup at 0700 and the public in at 0800. Talkin on the club 147.105 + 146.2 tone. Contact Bill, N4WEB 813-878-7654 for information.**
- September 12 Orlando, Bahia Shrine Center, 2300 Pembroke Avenue, for info contact Warren Hill, W4WHH at 407-365-6682 or visit the website at <http://www.bahia Shrine.org/~radio/tailgate.htm> Talk_In on 147.390 + 103.5 tone
- October 10-11 Melbourne, Melbourne City Auditorium, 625 East Hibiscus Blvd. Kathleen Quinn, KI4RQY at 321-327-

2647 or see the website at <http://www.pcars.org> tickets \$7 Talk-In on 146.25 + no tone

December 5-6

Palmetto, Tampa Bay Hamfest and the West Central Florida Section Convention, Manatee Civic Center 1 Haben Boulevard, for information see Keating Floyd, KC4HSI, chairman@fgcarc.org or go to <http://www.tampabayhamfest.org>

YOUR WORMHOLE OFFICERS

Bill, AG4QX is President and editor of this newsletter, Vice-President is George, W1AAG, Treasurer is Jim, KD4MZL, Secretary and club representative to FGARC is Connie, K4TBZ, Dee, N4GD is the Repeater Trustee and Neil, W4NHL is the club webmaster.

YOUR WORMHOLE REPEATERS

442.625 + PL 146.2
146.850 - PL 146.2

West Central Florida Section website: <http://www.arrlwcf.org/>.

The Wormhole website is at: <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org>

This newsletter is written for The Glorious Society of the Wormhole, an ARRL affiliated amateur radio club located in central Pinellas county Florida.

Anyone wishing to be added or removed from The Glorious Society of the Wormhole mailings please write to me at the address below and thy will be done.

73,

Bill Williams
AG4QX
ag4qx_AT_arrl_DOT_net