



BACKSCATTER

LAKELAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Volume 28 Number 5

On the web: <http://lakelandarc.homestead.com/>

LAKELAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, P. O. BOX 792 EATON PARK, FLORIDA 33840

May 2004

THIS MONTH'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE HELD May 3, 2004 at The
Fellowship Hall of the Westminster
Presbyterian Church on S. Florida Avenue
between Riggins Street and Mosswood,
Lakeland FL. at 7:00 PM, Talk in on
146.685, PL 127.3

The Prez Sez.

May

Well, we have had a banner month in April. A picnic and the March of Dimes Walkathon. We had a nice turnout for the picnic... Hot Dogs & Hamburgs by Carl (N3TJ) and Bob (N4DOA). Everyone contributed a dish and the food was consumed with gusto. Portable stations were set up with battery power and some QSOs made with emergency antennas. Reports to me were that everyone had a good time.

April 24th dawned early and all the volunteers showed up around 7:30 AM at the Presbyterian Church on Lake Hollingsworth. It took a few minutes to get organized and soon we had people at all nine checkpoints, a net control station in the church parking lot and a couple of sweep vehicles in motion. We were favored with some really good weather and our support for the walk was really appreciated by Pat Hatcher, the West Central Division Director of March of Dimes. After the walk everyone received a March of Dimes T-Shirt and enjoyed the snacks and drinks provided by the walk committee. I want to personally thank all the volunteers for their participation. You were there when it really counted and made the event a real success.

I hope I haven't missed anyone... I'm always fearful of that when I list volunteers by name. If I have missed anyone... My apologies in

advance. The following folks all contributed to our success at the walk.

Jim & Gil Murray (KC5QWC & KC5TEN)
Terry & Maureen McGraw (WA2LDG & WA2YSH), Joe & Pat Pirkle (AD4IH & WD4BEK), Don Wozniak (W9KFW), Conrad Shelton (K1EC), Bob Herring (N4DOA), Wayne Miles (KG4TCJ), George Mann (KJ4UW), Bob Pendleton (KE4ECW), Jack Falkenhof (K4BYF), Jim Cook (KG4YJJ), & yours truly (N3TJ).



The Merry Band of Volunteers

(Pix by Jack Falkenhof (K4BYF))

73 de Carl, N3TJ

From the Secretary:

Looks like we may have our Secretary back in the month of May. She does much better at the note taking than the rest of us. (Ed. Note)

During the remainder of the year, members can update contact information whenever changes occur by emailing KF4TXO at kf4txo@arrl.net, or N3TJ at cjohns56@tampabay.rr.com or sending a postcard to Lakeland ARC; Attn:

Backscatter – Lakeland Amateur Radio Club
(Backscatter is the monthly Newsletter of the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club)

Rebecca Pirkle; PO Box 792; Eaton Park, FL 33840.

Rebecca KF4TXO, Secretary

EVENTS

May

The Board and I felt that since the previous picnics were so well received that we would have another in May.

Plan on Sunday May 16, at Lake Parker Park, from 12:00 noon to about 3:00 PM. The club will furnish the meat dishes (may be hotdogs & hamburgs again) or Bob and I may come with something more exotic. Bring a dish to pass the same as last time. Bring any portable/QRP gear you can & we'll exercise it all. May even try some different emergency antennas e.g. a half size G5RV and others.

73, N3TJ, Carl Acting Events Coordinator

May Program

The program for May's meeting will be a discussion of Field Day, Class "F" operation. Need to get some idea of how many operators we can count on. That will determine the number of positions we can man at the SNCP and also what we need to do about antennas.

De Carl N3TJ (for Bob – N4DOA)

Education Department Report

May

The Lakeland C.E.R.T. group has requested a class for Technician. Tentative plans are to hold the classes at the Lakeland Police Department if space is available. Three people from Lakeland C.E.R.T. contacted Bob Gibson and expressed an interest in forming a class. I still must contact someone in the group and get all the ducks in line. Hopefully, I can get the Green Road and the Rock Ridge groups interested. There was a good turn-out of Education Committee trained hams at the recent Polk County Volunteer Appreciation banquet. No

less than 14 hams were there, not counting WD4BEK, Pat, and myself.

If you are not a volunteer with Polk County, please consider it. We need hams to man the communications during emergencies that impact on Polk County.

A reminder to those who are looking to advance to General Class: the new question pool becomes effective on July 1. It appears to me be a little more difficult than the old pool. If you have studied the written material, you have one opportunity remaining to test with the Polk VE team before the change. The Polk VE team will be testing on Saturday, June 19 at 9:00 a.m. at the American Red Cross Building, 147 Ave "A" NW Winter Haven. Pre-registration is required; no walk-ins, please. Contact Chet Carruth, <mailto:ab4xk@arrl.net> or (863) 294 - 6243 (Home) to pre-register.

73 es 88 de Joe, AD4IH

For further information contact me at ad4ih@arrl.net ***Joe Pirkle, AD4IH***

May Birthdays



May 04	Charles Bukoski	WD4LKY
May 04	Jack Falkenhof	K4BYF
May 05	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
May 08	Pat Pirkle	WD4BEK
May 13	Aaron Phelps	KF4EYR
May 21	Walt Farley	K4QE

If your birthday is in this month and is not listed, contact the Editor at cjohns56@tampabay.rr.com to update the birthday roster.

Attention All Hams – ARRL News

FCC Proposes Wide-Ranging Changes to Amateur Service Rules--Not Restructuring

NEWINGTON, CT, Apr 15, 2004--The FCC has released an "omnibus" *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* that seeks comments on a wide range of proposed Amateur Service (Part 97) rules changes. **The *NPRM* is not related to the three amateur licensing restructuring petitions--including one from ARRL--for which the comment period ended April 23** (see "[FCC Invites Comments on Amateur Radio Restructuring Plans](#)"). The FCC also denied several petitions for rule making aimed at altering portions of the Amateur Radio regulatory landscape and ordered minor changes in Part 97 that become effective June 1. The *NPRM* is a result of a dozen petitions for rule making, some filed more than a year ago and a few dating back as far as 2001. Comments on the proposals put forth in WT Docket 04-140 are due by Tuesday, June 15, with reply comments by Wednesday, June 30. Among other changes, the FCC has recommended adopting the ARRL's "[Novice refarming](#)" plan.

"Because the ARRL petition addresses the operating privileges of all classes of licensees on these Amateur Service bands, we believe that the ARRL petition provides a basis for a comprehensive restructuring of operating privileges," the FCC said in its *NPRM*. The FCC is gathering comments on restructuring but has not acted on the matter. "We note that, as proposed, no licensees would lose any spectrum privileges and that General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra Class licensees would gain spectrum for phone emissions, one of the most popular operating modes on the HF bands."

The ARRL referenced its Novice refarming proposal in its recent *Petition for Rule Making, RM-10867*, which, along with three other petitions, remains open for comment until Friday, April 23.

The FCC also has proposed essentially eliminating its rules prohibiting manufacture or marketing of Amateur Radio Service power amplifiers capable of operating between 24 and 35 MHz. Originally put on the books in 1978 to keep high-powered amateur amplifiers out of the hands of CBers, the rules now "impose unnecessary restrictions on manufacturers of Amateur Radio equipment and are inconsistent with the experimental nature of the Amateur Service," the FCC said in its *NPRM*. The Commission noted that its Part 95 rules governing the Citizens Radio Service already prohibit use of external power amplifiers with CB equipment, which must be FCC certificated.

The Commission further proposed amending §97.315, "Certification of external RF power amplifiers," and §97.317, "Standards for certification of external RF power amplifiers," of its amateur rules "to clarify and simplify the exceptions in our rules." The FCC also wants to eliminate §97.3(a)(19), which defines an external RF power amplifier kit, "because of the uncertainty created by this rule."

The FCC additionally proposed a rule change that would make Kenwood's *Sky Command* system legal for operation within the US. The Commission said it believes Kenwood's proposal "will be consistent with our flexible-use policy in the Amateur Service." The proposed amendment to §97.201(b) of the rules would permit auxiliary operation on 2 meters above 144.5 MHz--with the exception of the satellite subband 145.8 to 146.0 MHz--in addition to frequency segments already authorized. The *Sky Command* system permits the user to operate certain Kenwood equipment remotely via a VHF/UHF handheld transceiver.

(*Ed Note:* Read the rest of this article at the ARRL Web Site)

Wednesday Luncheons

Join us for lunch at Lings on 98 North on Wednesdays at 11:00 AM.



BACKSCATTER

LAKELAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Board Of Directors

Executive Board

President	Carl Johnson	N3TJ
Vice President	Bob Herring	N4DOA
Secretary	Rebecca Pirkle	KF4TXO
Treasurer	Conrad Sheldon	K1EC

Board Members

Jack Falkenhof	K4BYF
Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Patricia Pirkle	WD4BEK
Richard Sharp	KQ4KX
Vacant	

Committee Chairpersons

Education	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Events	Carl Johnson (Acting)	N3TJ
E-Mail Reflector	Fred Kalt	W2XN
	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Field Day	Carl, Bob & Conrad	N3TJ, N4DOA, K1EC
Hospitality	Martha Gochin	
Publicity	Carl Johnson (Acting)	N3TJ
LARC Net	Becky Pirkle	KF4TXO
Newsletter	Carl Johnson	N3TJ
	Conrad Sheldon	K1EC
Program	Bob Herring (Acting)	N4DOA
Repeater Trustee	Richard Sharp	KQ4KX
Sympathy	Martha Gochin	
Webmaster	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Silent Key	Bert Onachila	KG2G

LAKELAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, P. O. BOX 792 EATON PARK, FLORIDA 33840
(Backscatter is the monthly Newsletter of the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club)

Editor: Contact Carl Johnson – N3TJ – cjohns56@tampabay.rr.com – (863) 667-2464

Lakeland Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 792
Eaton Park, FL 33840
