



# BACKSCATTER

LAKELAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



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## Volume 28 Number 11

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

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

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### November 2004

THIS MONTH'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING will be held November 1, 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

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### From The Editor

After a two-month hiatus, the Backscatter is back on-line. Hurricanes Charley, Frances, and Jeanne caused disruptions in almost every facet of our lives. After having worked in the Charley and Frances venues, Pat and I decided not hang around for Ivan. We went to Norfolk, Virginia to be with our daughter until the time to attend the Naval Cryptologic Veterans Association convention in Charleston, South Carolina. We returned to Norfolk and looked at a house there.

While we were back in Norfolk Hurricane Jeanne roared through central Florida. We returned home to find that we had roof and siding damage to our house. The HF antennas are down, but will be back up within a week or so.

I have re-assumed the Editor position on the Backscatter as of today, October 27, 2004. This issue will be somewhat abbreviated due to the short lead-time to get it out before the November 1 general membership meeting.

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### From the Secretary:

The Nomination Committee has presented the following slate of nominees for the 2005 Board of Directors:

### Officers:

Pat Pirkle, WD4BEK – President  
Ron Smith, KF4JED - Vice President  
Gill Murray, KC5TEN - Secretary  
Charles Gribble, KI4CRI - Treasurer  
Richard Sharp, KQ4KX - Repeater Trustee

### Board of Directors:

Jim Murray, KC5QWG  
Jack Falkenhof, K4BYF  
Bob Pendleton, KE4ECW  
Joe Pirkle, AD4IH

I would like to thank the membership for allowing me to be their Secretary for the past five years. It has been quite a learning experience, and I appreciate having had the opportunity to acquire that knowledge. At this point in my life, I find that I need to focus more time and effort into developing my career; as a result, I am not seeking re-election. Again, many thanks to all LARC members for their support and assistance during my tenure as Secretary.

*Rebecca KF4TXO, Secretary*

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### EVENTS

#### November

The November yard sale is cancelled due to a lack of volunteers to help out. Maybe another time...

The Christmas party will be discussed at the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. It will be a pot-luck and the club will furnish the entrée. Be prepared to tell me what you will bring as a side dish.

*Pat WD4BEK, Events Coordinator*

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

**November Program**

Nominations and election of all officer and board positions will be held at this meeting. We are running a month late due to the storms and work schedules of the “movers and shakers”. Please be there to VOTE!

*De Joe AD4IH*

**Education Department Report**

**November**

The Education chairman with the assistance of Charles Gribble (KI4CRI), Norma Gribble (KI4HIM), Pat Pirkle (WD4BEK), and Jim Cook (KG4YJJ) conducted an event during the 47<sup>th</sup> Jamboree on the air on October 17, 2004 for several Junior Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Plans are underway to do this again next year and include older Scouts the next time. See me to help form a permanent J.O.T.A. volunteer group.

*73 es 88 de Joe, AD4IH*

For further information contact me at [ad4ih@arrl.net](mailto:ad4ih@arrl.net) .*Joe Pirkle, AD4IH*

**September/October/November Birthdays**



Sept 11	David Bennear	KD4WD H
Sept 20	Ron Smith	KF4JED
Sept 24	Jim Thompson	KB9PGB
Sept 30	Rubye Duncan	---
Oct 06	Wanda Thompson	KF4EYR
Oct 07	Dawn Fletcher	K4QE

Oct 07	Warren Fletcher	KB9UJG
Oct 14	Leonard Postage	N4UMR
Oct 19	Bill Aten	N4EGH
Oct 23	William Hunsicker	K4DF
Nov 05	Homer Fritch	W6AYD
Nov 08	Ruth Hodapp	WB8VLR
Nov 08	Eric Clark	W4EMT
Nov 08	Bert Onachila	KG2G
Nov 27	Greg Spivey	KC4TFZ
Nov 28	H. Walter Welch	N4MAB

*If your birthday is in this month and is not listed, contact the Editor at [ad4ih@arrl.net](mailto:ad4ih@arrl.net) to update the birthday roster.*

**Attention All Hams – ARRL News**

**Club commissions for membership renewals are back!** (Oct 26, 2004) -- Responding to the wishes of many ARRL-affiliated clubs, the League has reinstated the Club Commission



Membership Recruitment Program, which benefits affiliated clubs by helping them to bolster

the bottom line. For the past couple of years, ARRL-Affiliated clubs have earned \$15 commissions for each new or lapsed (over two years) membership they submit. Effective immediately, affiliated clubs now will also earn \$2 for each ARRL membership *renewal* they send in. This program applies to regular *and* senior membership dues. (Commissions do *not* apply to family or blind memberships, and this program may not be combined with any other special offer or discount program.) The program is just one of the many [benefits](#) of ARRL club affiliation. Affiliated clubs might consider taking advantage by scheduling an ARRL membership recruitment/renewal night. For full details, see the [ARRL Club Commission Membership Recruitment Program](#) Web page.

This article is from the ARRL Web Page.

**Wednesday Luncheons**

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

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**Quotable Quotes**

Overheard at Ling's Chinese Restaurant during a group luncheon: "I made another CW contact yesterday – and this time I copied his call sign!"



**FCC Affirms Fine of California Ham**

In an October 5 Forfeiture Order, the FCC has affirmed a \$10,000 fine it proposed earlier this year to levy on Jack Gerritsen, ex-KG6IRO, of Bell, California. The FCC asserts that Gerritsen doesn't have an Amateur Radio license but continues to operate. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) promptly rescinded its 2001 Amateur Radio license grant to Gerritsen after learning of his California court conviction a year earlier for interfering with police communications. The fine is the next step in a case that eventually could lead to criminal prosecution.

Responding to a July FCC Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL), Gerritsen maintained that he still has a ham ticket. He asserted that the NAL failed to show that his interference conviction is under appeal, that the set-aside of his amateur license was unfounded and is only a claim made by Commission personnel; that he holds a valid license and that any possible suspension of his license is pending a hearing, making the NAL moot until a suspension actually occurs.

Not so, said the FCC, citing chapter and verse to back up its Forfeiture Order. Section 1.113(a) of its rules gives the WTB 30 days from publication to modify or set aside an action, such as a license grant, on its own motion. As a result, the FCC said, Gerritsen's amateur application

has reverted to pending status, and no license exists.

Gerritsen also argued that he preserved his license by seeking a hearing under §1.85 of the FCC's rules and, further, that he'd been told by FCC personnel that he would get a hearing. Wrong again, the FCC concluded. The Commission pointed out that §1.85 spells out when the FCC may suspend an operator license, but since Gerritsen has no license, just a pending application, there is no license to suspend, and §1.85 doesn't apply. A Hearing Designation Order for Gerritsen is said to be working its way through the FCC bureaucracy.

Reports from Los Angeles area hams indicate that Gerritsen continues to use KG6IRO, although the call sign appears in the FCC's Universal Licensing System as "terminated." Recent letters have implored the ARRL to somehow intervene in the situation.

"Imagine BPL--a million times worse," one radio amateur recently wrote the League. For some time now, repeater owners have been shutting down their machines rather than let an unlicensed user transmit through them.

The FCC said in its Forfeiture Order that agents who tracked transmissions to Gerritsen's house and interviewed him said he admitted to transmitting on various Amateur radio frequencies as well as on various business radio frequencies.

In a handwritten letter Gerritsen wrote while in jail last March on a federal trespassing conviction to the president of one repeater association, he suggested that repeater owners should tolerate his commentaries "a few times a day."

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LAKELAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



## Board Of Directors

### Executive Board

<b>President</b>	Bob Herring	N4DOA
<b>Vice President</b>	Jack Falkenhof	K4BYF
<b>Secretary</b>	Rebecca Pirkle	KF4TXO
<b>Treasurer</b>	Conrad Sheldon	K1EC

### Board Members

Joe Morrell	KR4TU
Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Patricia Pirkle	WD4BEK
Richard Sharp	KQ4KX
Charles Gribble	KI4CRI

## Committee Chairpersons

<b>Education</b>	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
<b>Events</b>	Pat Pirkle	WD4BEK
<b>E-Mail Reflector</b>	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
<b>Field Day</b>	n/a	
<b>Hospitality</b>	Pat Pirkle	WD4BEK
<b>Publicity</b>	Joe Morrell	KR4TU
<b>LARC Net</b>	Kevin Smith	KI4EFN
<b>Newsletter</b>	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
<b>Publisher</b>	Rebecca Pirkle	KF4TXO
<b>Program</b>	Jack Falkenhof	K4BYF
<b>Repeater Trustee</b>	Richard Sharp	KQ4KX
<b>Sympathy</b>	n/a	
<b>Webmaster</b>	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
<b>Silent Key</b>	Bert Onachila	KG2G

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