



The
BACKSCATTER



Newsletter of The Lakeland (FL) Amateur Radio Club

Editor: [Joe Pirkle](#)

October 2005, Vol. 29 - No. 10

Publisher: [Pat Pirkle](#)

The LARC MEMBERSHIP MEETING is held on the first Monday of each month at The Fellowship Hall of the Westminster Presbyterian Church on S. Florida Ave between Riggins Street and Mosswood, Lakeland FL. at 7:00 PM. Talk in on 146.685 MHz. PL Tone 127.3 Hz.

THE PREZ SEZ

Pat Pirkle – WD4BEK



Election time is nearing! Our nominating committee (Marvin Johnson, KI4CDZ, Kevin Smith, KI4EFN, and Wane Miles, KG4JCJ) has been busy lining up candidates for the Officers and Board Members. The candidates will be announced at the October 3rd meeting. If you have not been approached and you are disappointed you were not asked, all is not lost. Talk to one of the members of the nominating committee. If you don't make that decision until the November meeting (election night) you may still have another member nominate you when the floor is opened to nominations.

Ernie Haynes, KG4YNI, has been coordinating our planned event at the Kathleen Heritage Fair and will make a report to the membership at the upcoming meeting.

We have several topics to discuss, so come and put in your "two cents worth".

So until October 3,

70/88 de Pat – WD4BEK

Heard on the Gourd Vine

Bert Onachila, KG2G



Returning from a 3 week vacation, I found that a "Gourd Vine" had taken over my 40/80-meter dipole. Rising to the challenge of determining its effect on radiation, I found that I had a GAIN of at least 3 Gourds over that of a standard dipole... Amazing.....Bert KG2G

LARC 2-Meter Net

Our 2-meter net continues to operate due to the intrepid net controls that step up to the plate each week. Thanks, folks.

Please contact Kevin, KI4EFN, to get on the list to run a net. It is really a fun thing to do. You do not have to be a club member to be a net control. Just go to www.lakelandarc.org/files/2meternet.html and download the net preamble. If you want help on your first time, there are several club members that will help assist you.



DX COUNTRY PREFIXES

Do you like to work DX? Do you need a good list of country prefixes to know if that faint station you hear is one of the countries you need for your DXCC? Try this web site for a good list of DX country prefixes:

<http://www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/Dxcc/index.html>



September

KB9UJG	Wanda Thompson	Oct/06
F4TND	Dawn Fletcher	Oct/07
KE4VBA	Warren Fletcher	Oct/07
WA2UDG	Terry McGraw	Oct/13
KG4TCJ	Wayne Miles	Oct/13
N4UMR	Leonard A Postage	Oct/14
N4EGH	Bill Aten	Oct/19
K4DF	William R Hunsicker	Oct/23
N4DOA	Bob Herring	Oct/31

If your birthday was omitted, please contact the editor at ad4ih@arrl.net to correct your database profile.

HUMOR

Seems an elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased you can hear again." To which the gentleman said, "Oh, I haven't told my

family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

FLORIDA HAMFESTS

October/November 2005

8 Oct	Cy Harris W4MAQ Memorial Free Flea Motorola & Broward ARCs Talk-In: 146.790	Plantation
5 Nov	North Brevard Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 145.490 - (PL 100 Hz)	Titusville
19 Nov	Free Tailgate Swapfest Flamingo / U of Miami ARC Talk-In: 146.865 -600 (PL 103.5)	Coral Gables
26 Nov	Okeechobee ARC Talk-In: 147.09 (PL 100)	Okeechobee

Check the ARRL Web Site www.arrl.org for more information.

LARC Web Site

The Lakeland Amateur Radio Club's Web site at www.lakelandarc.org is undergoing a massive urban renewal. Wayne Miles, KG4TCJ, is your new WebMaster and has done a great job redesigning the pages. It was past due! Drop by for a visit and give Wayne some feedback.

When Wayne agreed to take it over, I told him, in essence, "Anything you do is ok with me. I won't second guess you on anything." He took me at my word and has completely revamped the site.



A plan to “marry” the Web site to the E-mail reflector is underway. Look for an announcement on the reflector when this is accomplished. We are hoping to make this move transparent to the club members, except you will see an improvement. Things are looking up with fresh, new ideas from the club members.

RF SAFETY CALCULATOR

Amateur Radio operators licensed by the Federal Communications Commission of the United States of America are required to do a "routine evaluation" of the strength of the RF fields around their stations, subject to certain exemptions. These rules can be found in the FCC's ET Docket No. 93-62. More information can be found at the ARRLWeb's RF Safety page. This is a main beam power density estimation program intended for use as part of a routine evaluation of RF safety compliance with FCC regulations. This program uses the formulas given in FCC OET Bulletin No. 65 to estimate power density in the main lobe of an antenna, with use of the EPA-recommended ground reflection factor as an option. This program is intended for approximate far-field calculations. It may overestimate the actual field strength of high-gain antennas in the near field (within several wavelengths of the antenna.) However, it may also underestimate the strength of fields that may be encountered in hot spots in the near field. No computer program can predict where wiring or reflective objects may create hot spots in your particular installation.

The RF SAFETY CALCULATOR is located on the University of Texas Amateur Radio Club's N5XU web page at:

<http://n5xu.ae.utexas.edu/rfsafety/>

Annual ARRL SET Scheduled

The American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will be held the weekend of Saturday/Sunday October 1-2, 2005.

The SET is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications involving both the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the National Traffic System (NTS). The ARRL Northern Florida Section (NFL), Southern Florida Section (SFL), and West Central Florida Section (WCF) will be participating in a combined statewide event.

Hillsborough County ARES/RACES will be participating in this event on the local level. If you are available this weekend and would like to participate in this communications exercise, please monitor the primary Hillsborough County ARES/RACES N4TP 147.105+ MHz repeater (146.2 PL) for an emergency activation alert. This emergency activation alert will be re-broadcast on all local Hillsborough County amateur radio repeaters.

Local radio traffic will be generated and passed into the National Traffic System as part of this exercise. Participating ARES stations are requested to operate off of emergency power during this exercise.

Please e-mail aces@hillsboroughcounty.org or call the Hillsborough County ARES/RACES office located at the EOC at (813) 224-8544 for question related to this Simulated Emergency Test.

Check this e-mail distribution list; attend your local amateur radio club, or check into local amateur radio nets for future Hillsborough County ARES/RACES training activities, exercises, and public service events.

Gary Sessums
RACES Officer / ARES Emergency
Coordinator - Hillsborough County Florida



The
BACKSCATTER
Newsletter of The Lakeland (FL) Amateur Radio Club



Board Of Directors
Committee Chairpersons

President	Pat Pirkle	WD4BEK
Vice President	Ernie Haynes	KG4YNI
Secretary	Gillian Murray	KC5TEN
Treasurer	Marvin Johnson	KI4CDZ

Board Members	Jack Falkenhof	K4BYF
	Jim Murray	KC5QCW
	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
	Bob Pendleton	KE4ECW
	Richard Sharp	KQ4KX

Education	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Events	Patrick O'Neil	KI4XΔΨ
E-Mail Reflector	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Field Day	Jim Murray	KC5QWG
Hospitality	Open	
Publicity	Joe Morrell	KR4TU
LARC Net	Kevin Smith	KI4EFN
Membership	Gillian Murray	KC5TEN
Newsletter	Joe Pirkle	AD4IH
Publisher	Pat Pirkle	WD4BEK
Program	Ernie Haynes	KG4HIN
Repeater Trustee	Richard Sharp	KQ4KX
Sympathy	Open	
Webmaster	Wayne Miles	KG4TCJ
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 Joe Pirkle – AD4IH –
ad4ih@arrl.net – (863) 688-7351**

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