



the *Radio Flyer*, a *BRARA Newsletter*

July/August 2014

BRARA Calendar:

- 09:00-13:00 Sat 02-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 19:30 Mon 04-Aug-14**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 19:00-21:00 Tue 05-Aug-14 No Club Meeting @ West Boca Library**
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 06-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 09-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 19:30 Mon 11-Aug-14**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 13-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 16-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 19:30 Mon 18-Aug-14**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 20-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 23-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 12:00 Noon Sun 24-Aug-14**
Soft Deadline for Newsletter
- 19:30 Mon 25-Aug-14**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 27-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 30-Aug-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- Mon 01-Sep-2014 LABOR DAY**
- 19:30 Mon 01-Sep-14**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 03-Sep-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 19:00-21:00 Wednesday 03-Sep-2014**
Club Meeting @ West Boca Library
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 06-Sep-14**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 19:30 Mon 08-Sep-14**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net



This Month's Speaker kj4rhp

There is no meeting in August.

In September, Mark Filla, KS4VT, will give a presentation on DMR (Digital Mobile Radio). DMR is an open and published international digital standard that specifies the 2-slot (channel) TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access) communications.

DMR is amateur radio's newest digital protocol. DMR radios are produced by several manufacturers (more than just Motorola) and all work on TRBO. This is bringing the cost down

It is not compatible with D-Star technology. DMR satisfies the FCC narrowbanding mandate by being 6.25 kHz equivalent



Repeater, HSMM, & Ham Shack News

The weekly worker group meets almost every Wednesday and Saturday morning roughly between 0900 and 1300.

Repeater 2m/70cm linking is still a work in progress as is correcting the repeater time-stamp. Testing and tweaking of the new Controller continues.

The HSMM club project is also a work in progress.

Your support is needed (more physical, but moral is appreciated).

QSL Report N4BJ

As we close out the month, N4BRF has logged in 1,324 QSLs/4,928 QSOs (26.9%) on LoTW.

N4BRF DXCC Account Status: New this month: Andaman & Nicobar (VU4) and Albania (ZA). Awards received: Mixed and CW. We just received the Phone DXCC.

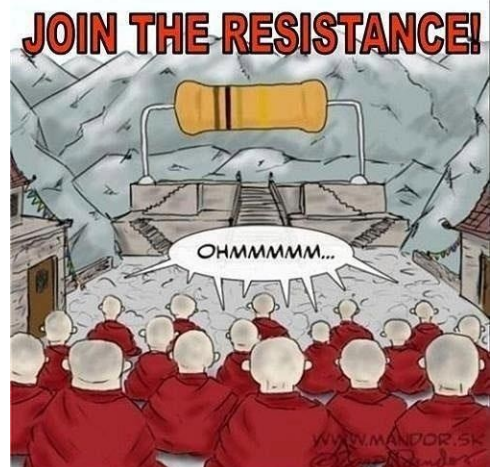
N4BRF WAS Account Status: We have received 161, 159 and 165 QSLs from the 2012, 2013 and 2014 Field Day activities respectively. Awards received: Basic.

N4BRF Triple Play Award Status: CW 49, Phone 46, Digital 44, Total 139 (of 150 needed). New this month: AK-Data/Phone, MD-Data, MT/WA-Phone, ND-CW. Needed: CW-ME, Phone-ID/OR/SD/UT, and Digital-AR/DE/NE/SC/SD/VT.

N4BRF VUCC Account Status: New this month: EK44 (TG9AJR), EM12 (KSQY), EM35 (W1AW/5). The Fred Fish Memorial Award is still a work in progress.

Next update-SEP-2014 meeting.

New DXCC Phone Award for BRARA/ N4BRF



FCC Rule changes

The FCC has revised the Amateur Service Part 97 rules to grant partial written examination element credit to holders of expired General, Advanced and Extra licenses. The new rules become effective 30 days after their publication in *The Federal Register*, which is Monday July 21, 2014.

Expired license holders will not automatically receive credit on that day and may not operate as a new licensee.

The FCC requires former licensees – those falling outside the 2-year grace period – to pass Element 2 (Technician) in order to be relicensed.

To take advantage of the new rule, holders of expired licenses must attend an exam session. There they would present a photo ID and their expired license proof, pay the \$15 exam session processing fee and take the Technician exam.

If an applicant held a General or Advanced license, and has proof, the FCC will afford credit for the General (Element 3) written exam only. If an applicant held an Extra license, and has proof, the FCC will afford credit for the General (Element 3) and Extra (Element 4) written exams. At VE exam sessions it is the applicant (not the VEs or coordinating VEC) who is responsible for supplying the evidence of holding valid expired license credit. Acceptable forms of proof can be found on the Exam Element Credit web page at <http://www.arrl.org/exam-element-credit>.

If sufficient proof is not presented, the candidate has the option of taking the Tech exam and earning just a new Tech license and then attending another exam session at a later date when they have the proper documentation.

As always, the candidate will have to show a photo ID, present the proof, pay the \$15 exam session processing fee and fill out all forms to receive the paper upgrade. The upgrade is not automatic and may NOT be sent directly to the FCC or to the VEC by the candidate.

Expired licensees will not automatically get their old call sign back. FCC will issue a new sequentially issued call sign. If they desire to obtain their old call sign they may try to do so through the FCC vanity call sign program. However, someone else may have already obtained their old call sign as a vanity call sign and therefore it would not be available.

Ham radio:

Old technology gets new respect

ATLANTA - Seeking reliable backup communication in a crisis, emergency managers are finding new solutions in an old technology: ham radio.

"It's just another avenue, another opportunity for us to be able to communicate," said Herb Schraufnagel, public safety captain with Emory University Hospital Midtown.

Emory HealthCare is among a growing number of hospital systems to adopt ham radio. Hospital administrators and government officials took a lesson from Hurricane Katrina, which left some Gulf Coast medical centers isolated from the outside world, as landlines and cell towers failed.

When power, phone and Internet services go down, a battery-powered amateur radio and portable antenna can provide that crucial link to the outside world.

"Ham radio will never die," said Barry Thomas, Sr., a ham radio enthusiast and employee at Emory University Hospital Midtown.

"The quickest means of communication is Morse Code. It'll get out when none of this will," Thomas said, referring to a room filled with computers and smartphones.

"It is interesting that some of the technology that has been around for 80, 90, 100 years is still relevant," said John Davis, a ham radio enthusiast.

In addition to major hurricanes, Davis says the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 rekindled interest in ham radio as a public safety tool.

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) has set up a permanent ham radio station in its command center.

"We look at ham radio operators just like GEMA staff, just like DOT staff and Georgia State Patrol staff," said GEMA Director Charlie English. "They are a critical partner with us."

The number of ham radio licenses is at an all-time high in the U.S. (723,182, as of April, according Federal Communications Commission (FCC) data compiled by Joe Speroni

of the Amateur Radio Education Web Site, ah0a.org.

"I really hope that it stays relevant and that we can be a resource to emergency management agencies," enthusiast Davis said. "Because I think that is where ham radio shines." Fox News producer David Lewkowicz contributed to this article.

You're a Ham radio Operator if...



The MOST IMPORTANT DAY of the Year is FIELD DAY. You only go out to dinner when they are Radio Club dinner meetings. You use up all your vacation time on the HAMVENTION and other ham radio conventions. You want to get to SCARBOUROUGH REEF for a vacation instead of HAWAII! Every cent of disposable income is poured into radios You roof looks like a NASA Space center You shop for houses only in Antenna FRIENDLY, NON-CC&R/HOA areas The condition of the house doesn't matter, only the RADIO LOCATION! You will spend much more than the house is worth just because it has clear shot in all directions.

First consideration to a car is given on how you can mount radios in it and antennas on it! The most important thing about a car is how it will hold up on a trip to DAYTON! White Castles are a STAPLE FOOD! BIG RED is used for HUMAN COOLANT! Your favorite website is QRZed, next it is DX SUMMIT.

The most important thing you can get in the MAIL is QSL CARDS! You refer to CB as 11 meter. You notice antennas while out driving around in your car. If there is someone else in the car with you, you point them out. The radio you have sitting on your desk right now is the best radio ever made. If your kids at the age of 40 still won't go into your ham shack without being escorted by you! If you not only will walk through Costco or Home Depot with an HT strapped to your hip, but talk on it needlessly while walking through those places or separate from your XYL just so you can talk to her at the other end of Costco. No one knows you by your name, only by your call sign! YOU don't need a NAME as long as you have a call! You love the smell of rosin core solder melting. You know what a J-38 is and you love the look and feel of it. A treasure chest would have to contain miles of aluminum tubing, bare stranded copper wire, polyester/Dacron rope, and good pulleys, wide spaced variable caps, 28uH rotary inductors, 1/8 and 1/4 inch aluminum plate.....

Echolink Is Back N4BRF-R Node 826953

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Echolink is up and running on our 2 meter repeater (N4BRF).

Keep in touch with us here at BRARA this summer.

Our repeater is on 145.290 MHz with a PL of 110.9

Our BRARA net meets every Monday night at 7:30PM

Net Control, Frank, (W1IVB), will stand by for Echolink Check-Ins at the start of the net.

NBEMS kg4fur

I would like to remind everyone that there are two NBEMS nets in Palm Beach County meaning twice the opportunities for NBEMers.

⇒ The South County NBEMS Net on the 145.290 -0.600 [PL 110.9] repeater **meets Mondays at 20:00 hours** or following the BRARA Informal net (whichever is later).

⇒ The PBC NBEMS Net on the 147.285 +0.600 [PL 103.5] repeater **meets Tuesdays at 1930 hours.**

This means twice as many opportunities for "NBEMers" to hone their skills.

Although not specifically NBEMS nets, NBEMS has also become an integral part of the ARES emergency communication.

SC ARES Net kk4ati

Date: Now Wednesdays
Time: Starting at 7:00 pm

The South County ARES Net has moved to Wednesdays preceding the North County ARES 7:30 PM net.

Notes: These nets are to TEST out your Radio Equipment and OPERATOR TRAINING. on 147.225 [+600] with a PL of 107.2 (Primary) or 146.820 [-600] with a PL of 110.9 (Secondary). Simplex frequencies include 146.55 (SCARES), 147.54 (EOA5), and 147.55 (EOA6).

Monthly meetings are held at 1900 hours on 2nd Wed of month in the PBC FRS at 14276 Hagen Ranch Rd, Delray Beach FL 33446.

Club Net

145.290 -0.600 [PL 110.9] EC-826953
Monday Evening Informal Net @ 1930

Remember that we are as close as Echo Link [EC 826953]. So stay in touch with us on Monday nights at 19:30 (7:30 PM our local time). W1IVB, our NCS, looks forward to Echo Link contacts. We all do!

Club Repeaters

144.390 APRS Repeater
145.070 Packet Repeater
145.290 -0.600 [PL 110.9] EC-826953
442.875 +5.000 [PL 110.9]

Location: 26.39724 -80.09485
145.290 & 442.875 linking planned

Club Ham Shack

West Delray Regional Park
1087 West Atlantic Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33446

Board of Directors Scheduled Meetings

The BRARA Board of Directors:

K4LEW (Lew), **KG4FUR** (Gerry),
KJ4RHP (Mike), **KO4XL** (Bruce),
N4CGC (Max), **W1IVB** (Frank), and
W4WCD (Walt)

We hold weekly luncheon meetings at 11:30 Mondays (quorum permitting) at Miller's Ale House, 1200 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton, FL 33431. (561)988-9142 www.millersalehouse.com/location/east-boca-ale-house

Donations & Contributions

Contributions to BRARA—a 501(c)(3) organization—are tax deductible as charitable donations. As you complete your membership renewal or begin your year-end tax planning, please consider making a donation to BRARA.

\$10 donation-BRARA Name Plate with your Call Sign.

\$30 donation-BRARA Polo Shirt with your Call Sign.

\$40 donation-BRARA button down red denim shirt (long or short sleeve)

Planned Giving—Please also consider BRARA when updating or initiating planned giving (including charitable gift annuities, bequests, and gifts or retirement plan assets) and other assets.

Thank you for your continued support.

2014 Membership Application & Renewal

- \$20 Full Membership
- \$5 Associate Membership
- \$5 Family Mbr w/License

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

ARRL Member: Yes No

Birthday: Month: _____ Year: _____

License Grade: _____ Exp Date: _____

Interests: Field Day Ham Fest

HF Digital DXing

VHF Packet CW

UHF Voice Contesting

EmComm Skywarn Public Svc

ARES MARS CERT

Award Chasing Ragchewing

Building & Experimenting Other: _____

Signature: _____

Return to BRARA Secretary with Dues:

Walt Dreyfus, W4WCD
21512 Woodchuck Ln,
Boca Raton, FL 33428
(954) 481-5327

February 2015 Board of Directors Elections

There will be General Elections for the Club's Board of Directors in February 2015.

Nominations must be received by 01-November 2014. Ballots will then be distributed by email to all paid Club members.

Ballots must be received electronically by the February 2015 Meeting and only those with dues paid for 2015 are eligible to vote.

More details to follow as we get closer to the Nominations deadline.

Welcome New Members:

N4NNQ	Waybe Cline
WD2B	Rabbi Stanley
WB2LYC	Robert Kerner
WA2CGG	William Pointon
WA2JSB	Michael Scharfstein
N3AM	John Silva
N3JP	Jim Talens
W2RFU	Thomas Lifland
WB2CCD	Donna Lifland
K2OWU	Lim Manfredo
AC4FC	Chris Hite
KG4ZTW	John Price
LU3E2B	Marcos Raijer
KK4YGZ	Pablo Solsona
kk4ZBV	Mike Wasserman

For more on BRARA
www.n4brf.org



the Radio Flyer

5724 Regency Circle West
Boca Raton, FL 33496-2760

Email KG4FUR@n4brf.org with
Articles/Constructive Critique

Ft Pierce ARC Hamfest

09-Aug-2014

Location: Indian River State College-KSU Bldg, 3209 Virginia Ave, Ft Pierce FL

<http://fparc.weebly.com>

Sponsor: Ft Pierce ARC

Talk-In: 147.345 [107.2]

Contact: Harold Levy [N3UY], 3309 Bent Pine Dr, Ft Pierce, FL 34951, hlevy@mtaonline.net, or 772-409-4490

Southeastern Division Convention

16/17-Aug-2014

Location: Huntsville, AL

FL State Convention [Melbourne Hamfest]

10/11-Oct-2014

Location: Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E Hibiscus Blvd, Melbourne, FL 32901

<http://www.pcars.org>

Sponsor: Platinum Coast Radio Society

Talk-In: 146.250/146.850 [No PL]

Contact: Don Winn [AF4Z], P.O.Box 1004 Melbourne, FL 32902, hamfest2014@cfl.rr.com, or 321-254-9495

Free Laurel VEC

Testing

Tue 12-Aug-2014 & 09-Sep-2014, 1800-1930, Broward Gen MC, 1600 S Andrews Ave, Ft Lauderdale [BARC] (2nd Tue of every month).

Sun 07-Sep-2014 & 02-Nov-2014, 1100-1300, Fire Station 28, 1040 RPB Blvd, Royal Palm Beach [PWARC] (1st Sunday of odd months).

BRARA TBD



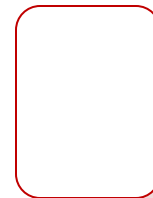
BRARA Ham Shack

Key Rules *K4Lew*

To obtain a key for our ham shack you must be a member in good standing for a minimum of a continuous year and hold a general class license or above and go through a short training section with K4LEW (Lew), W4WCD (Walt) or N4CGC (Max).

the Radio Flyer's Purpose

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep Club members and other interested Hams updated on Club events and Ham activities in the Greater Boca Raton Area. We hope you enjoy this month's *the R.F.* as much as we did publishing it!



BRARA Club Member Name
Call Sign
Street Address
City, State Zip Code



House Bill Would Require FCC to Extend PRB-1 Coverage to Restrictive Covenants

A bill with bipartisan support has been introduced in the US House of Representatives that calls on the FCC to apply the "reasonable accommodation" three-part test of the [PRB-1](#) federal pre-emption policy to private land-use restrictions. HR.4969, the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014" was introduced on June 25 at the request of the ARRL, which worked with House staffers to draft the proposed legislation. The bill's sponsor is Rep [Adam Kinzinger](#) (R-IL). It has initial co-sponsorship from Rep [Joe Courtney](#) (D-CT). If the measure passes the 113th Congress, it would require the FCC, within 120 days of the Bill's passage, to amend the Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply PRB-1 coverage to include homeowners' association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as "covenants, conditions, and restrictions" (CC&Rs). Presently, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances.

"There is a strong federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio stations established at the residences of licensees," the bill states. "Such stations have been shown to be frequently and increasingly precluded by unreasonable private land-use restrictions, including restrictive covenants."

The 11-page PRB-1 FCC *Memorandum Opinion and Order* is codified at [§ 97.15\(b\)](#) in the FCC Amateur Service rules, giving the regulation the same effect as a federal statute. In short, PRB-1 states that local governments cannot preclude Amateur Radio communications; they must "reasonably accommodate" amateur operations, and the state and local regulations must be the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish a legitimate governmental interest. Subject to those guidelines, municipalities may still establish regulations with respect to height, safety, and aesthetic concerns.

For 28 years, FCC regulations have "prohibited the application to Amateur Radio stations of state and local regulations that preclude or fail to reasonably accommodate Amateur Service communications," the bill points out, "or that do not constitute the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish a legitimate state or local purpose."

Since PRB-1 was enacted, the FCC has said several times that it would prefer to have some guidance from Congress before extending the policy to private land-use regulations.

HR.4969 has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), chairs that panel's Communications and Technology Subcommittee, which will consider the measure.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, is a principal advocate for the current legislative initiative to gain PRB-1 recognition for CC&Rs. Lisenco said the most urgent task now is to get additional co-sponsors to sign onto HR.4969.



FCC Seeks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fee

The FCC is requesting to raise the Amateur Service vanity call sign regulatory fee from its current \$16.10 to \$21.60 for the 10-year license term. The \$5.50 increase would be the largest vanity fee hike in many years. The proposal is contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)*, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2014; Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2013; and Procedures for Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees," which appeared in *The Federal Register* on July 3.

The FCC reported there were 11,500 "payment units" in FY 2014. The Commission said the vanity program generated \$230,000 in FY 2013 revenue, and it estimated that it would collect nearly \$248,000 in FY 2014.

Interested parties have 30 days to comment on the *NPRM*. Changes in the vanity call sign fee typically take effect in late August or early September.

FCC Turns Away Petition to Allow Hams to Operate Non-Certificated Transmitters on GMRS

The FCC has [denied](#) a *Petition for Rule Making (PRM)* filed by a Florida radio amateur that sought to permit hams who also hold General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) licenses to operate on GMRS channels with transmitters that have not been certificated for GMRS use, provided the transmitter meets GMRS technical standards. Mark Friedlander, KV4I, of New Smyrna Beach had asserted in his May 29 filing that the proposed rule change would facilitate interoperability in emergency situations, since many emergency response groups utilize both radio services.

Transmitters used in the Part 95 GMRS must have FCC certification prior to sale and marketing; in general, Part 97 Amateur Radio transmitters do not. In a June 20 letter to Friedlander, the FCC pointed out that GMRS transmitters that also can be used on Amateur Radio frequencies will not be certificated. The FCC said it adopted that rule "to prevent the possible proliferation of GMRS equipment that is also capable of operating on frequencies for which the GMRS licensee is not authorized."

Friedlander argued that Amateur Radio operators who are authorized to design, build, and operate transmitters without equipment certification in the 420-450 MHz amateur band should be allowed to do so on the 462/467 MHz GMRS channels, the FCC said.

"We conclude that the proposed rule change would undermine the prohibition on GMRS equipment with Amateur Radio frequency capability," the FCC said. "An exception to [the rule] would allow for the proliferation of home-built, non-standardized transmitters in the GMRS, with no practicable way for the Commission to monitor and enforce regulatory compliance for these devices"



The PBC PUSH for Outside Antennas

This outlines what has been discussed for a special multi-club activity to specifically support HR.4969, the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014" from the previous page.

A presentation on HR.4969 was given by Tom Gallagher on Monday night at the Central ARES meeting conducted in the PBC EOC on Military and Southern.

Larry Lazar, KS4NB is orchestrating this follow-up event.

PBC PUSH's purpose is to attract and assist HAMS in preparing and directing letters to their legislators at a time convenient for them.

A multi-club activity is scheduled between 1100 and 1600 on Sunday, 10-August-2014, in the Florida Science Museum located at 4801 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach FL 33405.

Tom Gallagher will give his presentation at 1200 (Noon) and at 1400.

Volunteers will assist attendees prepare and later collect letters of support for HR.4969, which will be sent to ARRL in bulk.

Help will be available to identify legislators.

A printer and a few laptops will be available, as well as a supply of envelopes, paper, pens, etc.

Following Tom's presentations, a Hurricane video will be shown. Programming radio help will also be available.

At this point, BRARA (Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association), WRC (Wellington Radio Club), Palms West Amateur Radio Club, West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Club, and Jupiter Light House Club are On-Board.

Gerry Gawaldo, KG4FUR will be the Club's point of contact for this event and the Club will disseminate more information as it becomes available.