



the *Radio Flyer*, a *BRARA* Newsletter

March 2015

BRARA Calendar:

- 19:30 Mon 02-Mar-15**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 19:00-21:00 Tue 03-Mar-15**
Club Meeting @ West Boca Library
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 04-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- Wed 04-Mar-15 Purim begins at Sundown**
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 07-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- Sun 08-Mar-15 Daylight Savings Time**
- 19:30 Mon 09-Mar-15**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 11-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 14-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 19:30 Mon 16-Mar-15**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- Tue 17-Mar-15 St Patrick's Day**
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 18-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 21-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 12:00 Noon Sun 22-Mar-15**
Soft Deadline for Newsletter
- 19:30 Mon 23-Mar-15**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 25-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 28-Mar-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- Sun 29-Mar-15 Palm Sunday**
- 19:30 Mon 30-Mar-15**
Informal Net on 145.29 [110.9]
followed by South County NBEMS Net
- Wed 01-Apr-15 April Fools Day**
- 09:00-13:00 Wed 01-Apr-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day
- Fri 03-Apr-15 Good Friday | Passover begins at Sundown**
- 09:00-13:00 Sat 04-Apr-15**
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day



This Month's Speaker

This month we will try again to have the Riley Hollingsworth (K4ZDH) video. Third time is the charm...

Riley, a Retired FCC Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division, talks about his old radio club from his days as a law student at Wake-Forest.

Also note the "Family Guy" cartoon on the last page of last month's newsletter.



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 as well as the time stamp are still works in progress Testing and tweaking of the new Controller continues.

We have the registration number for the additional 70 cm repeater controller. Manual is forthcoming.

The Digipeter is up and running. The packet repeater is a work in progress.

We have secured a limited internet connection at the Shack for spotting -no streaming downloads.

A new shack antenna switching system has been installed. See Page 5 for schematic and picture.

Plans and preparations for the new shack trailer are proceeding.

QSL Report N43J

As we close out the month, N4BRF has logged in 1,604 QSLs/5,392 QSOs (29.7%) on LoTW.

DXCC Account Status: New this month Uganda (5X), China (BA), Iran (EP), New Caledonia (FK), Cameroon (TJ), British Virgin Islands (Vp2V). **Awards received: Mixed, CW & Phone.** We are nearing 15m with 94 entities credited.

WAS Account Status: We have received 165 QSLs from 2012 Field Day (FD), 164 QSOs from 2013 FD, and 222 QSOs from 2014 FD activities. We have **Basic & Triple Play**, but still *need NE for RTTY!*

Triple Play Award Status: We are awaiting receipt of the award (**CW/PH/Digital**).

VUCC Account Status: Nothing new this month.

Next update at the Mar-2015 Club Meeting.



Emergency Manager Checks In with Definitions *KD0ZWM*

As a longtime Emergency Management professional I'd like to offer more of our definitions, in the context of last month's piece by OFDA's Art Feller, W4ART.

Conditions: elements are present that may create a problem. For example, oily rags being stored inappropriately, or a 7 day weather outlook shows heavy weather on the horizon.

Situation: the oily rags have been moved closer to a heat source and are smoldering, or weather fronts are combining and a watch has been issued.

Event: our rags have now caught fire in a bucket; or we have rain, hail and high winds currently.

Emergency: Actual event with impending threat to life or property, handled adequately with resources and assets routinely available to the affected area.

Disaster: The event and its aftermath are beyond the abilities of the local area to cope with, but through mutual aid and accessing resources outside of the area, possibly going regionally, the response and recovery effort can be handled effectively.

Catastrophe: Response and recovery efforts and resources required to contain the elements of the event are beyond the capabilities of the region.

Although not widely written down and shared, these informal definitions are widely held in the emergency management community, and may help planners, responders, adjunct agencies, and, of course, radio amateurs understand the dynamics. -- *Richard (Ryc) Lyden, KD0ZWM, Cottage Grove, Minnesota*

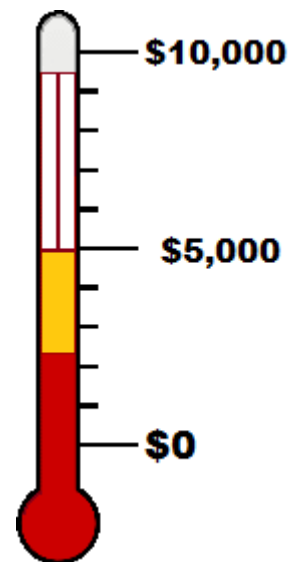
[Lyden has 25 years of experience in Public Safety, including 15 years of Emergency Management, and eight years in the US Air Force as a Medical Services Technician. He also served eight years in the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). He is a former Senior Planner, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management; Disaster Preparedness specialist in the USAF; and Chairman, Northland Chapter, American Red Cross. - ed].

Progress on New & Larger Shack Trailer

At the January 2015 Club Meeting the Membership voted to proceed with plans to purchase, install and upgrade the Shack in West Delray Regional Park.

While there is still a lot of planning and considerable thought needed before we get there, our mission is clear. One of the things we need to plan for is the purchase and installation.

Preliminary estimates are \$9K for the trailer and \$1K to install. We have a little less than one half in the kitty or promised. Any donations are appreciated.



BRARA OPEN HOUSE

Date: 3/28/15

Time: 10:00 AM

- The Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association's third anniversary station open house Everyone is welcome Hams, family members, friends come on out for a fun day
- Talk in 145.29 (pl 110.9)
- We are going to have a FOX HUNT bring your tracking radio

- Ham Radio
- Hot Dogs
- Burgers
- Drinks
- Fox Hunt
- Prizes

BRARA CLUB SHACK LOCATION

10875 W Atlantic Ave Delray Beach, Florida
33446


WWW.BRARA.ORG

BOCA RATON AMATEUR RADIO
ASSOCIATION
21512 Woodchuck Lane
Boca Raton, Florida 33428

Phone 954-481-5327
E-mail N4BRF@N4BRF.ORG

NBEMS Update *kg4fur*

With the rapid growth of Narrow Band Emergency Messaging Systems (NBEMS), Palm Beach Emergency Messaging Associates (PBEMA) is now known as Florida Emergency Messaging Associates (FLEMA). Same role, just more inclusive.

For more information and the latest Guide and Troubleshooting, go to www.qsl.net/k4wrc/PBC-BASIC-NBEMS.html or simply Google "Palm Beach NBEMS"

There are currently three NBEMS nets locally meaning three times the opportunities for NBEMers.

⇒ The South County NBEMS Net on the 145.290 -0.600 [PL 110.9] repeater **meets Mondays at 20:00.**

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

⇒ Knights of the Round Table Simplex Net 146.550 **meets 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 10:00.**

Already on board in addition to BRARA, Wellington Radio Club and Knights of the Round Table are Broward EOC, Central & South PBC ARES, Eagle Wings Foundation, Jupiter Lighthouse Radio Group, PBC Skywarn, Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society.

It also works on GMRS, CERT, Red Cross and other frequencies.

2015 Club Dues

Club dues are due with the first of the new year and by the 06-January-2015 Meeting.

An alternate approach is to donate \$100 to the Club and get a tax credit with a year's free membership at the same time. Remember, we are a 501c3.

New Shack Committee

A committee was formed to supervise donations, planning, and implementation of the new shack trailer: K3LEW (Lew), W3EZB (Marcos), WA2VNV (George), WA8VSJ (Art), W4BFL (Jerry),

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). KG4FUR, 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
10875 West Atlantic Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33446

Board of Directors

Scheduled Meetings

The new BRARA Board of Directors:

K4LEW (Lew), **KG4FUR** (Gerry),
KO4XL (Bruce), **N4CGC** (Max),
W3EZB (Marcos), **W4BFL** (Jerry),
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

ARES Nets

South County ARES Net is at 7:00 PM Wednesdays preceding the North County ARES 7:30 PM net and the Central County ARES 8:00 PM net.

Notes: These nets are to TEST out your Radio Equipment and Operator Training.

- ♦ SC ARES primary net repeater is 147.225 MHz +600 kHz offset [PL 107.2].
- ♦ NC ARES primary repeater is 146.625 MHz -600 kHz offset [PL 110.9].
- ♦ CC ARES primary repeater is 147.045 MHz +600 kHz offset [PL 110.9].
- ♦ Consult ICS 205 on PBDARES website for Secondary, Tertiary and Simplex frequencies.

Welcome New Members:

AA4AC Mickey Galper
W1HSR Howard Robins

For more on BRARA

www.n4brf.org

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), W4BFL (Jerry), W4WCD (Walt) or N4CGC (Max).

PBC Hamfest

Date: 14 Mar 2015
Location: FOP Lodge # 50
885 62nd Drive N
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
Website:

www.palmbeachradiofest.com/

Sponsor: Palms West Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest
Talk-In: 147.045 (PL 110.9)
Public Contact: Robert Pease, KS4EC
11894 Brierpatch Court
Wellington, FL 33414
Phone: 561-358-9999
Email: ks4ec@att.net

Southern Florida Section Convention (Stuart Hamfest - Martin County)

Start Date: 03/21/2015
End Date: 03/21/2015
Location: Martin County Fairgrounds
2616 SE Dixie Highway (A1A)
Stuart, FL 34994

Website: www.stuarthamfest.com

Sponsor: Martin County Amateur Radio Association
Type: ARRL Convention
Talk-In: 147.060 +600 (PL 107.2)
Public Contact: Doug Shields, W4DAS
PO Box 1901 Stuart, FL 34995
Phone: 772-349-7820
Email: w4das@comcast.net



No Smoking

UNLESS YOU'RE A RADIO WITH A SHORTED CAPACITOR.

Free Laurel VEC Testing



Sun 01-Mar-2015, 1100-1300, Fire Station 28, 1040 RPB Blvd, Royal Palm Beach [PWARC] (1st Sunday of odd months).

Tue 10-Mar-2015, 1800-1930, Broward Gen MC, 1600 S Andrews Ave, Ft Lauderdale [BARC] (2nd Tue of every month).

Thu 14-May-2015, 1900-2100, Rutherford Com Ctr, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton, FL 33498 [BRARA] (Quarterly: Feb, May, Aug, Nov)

License Upgrades *w2da*

Results from the 12-Feb-15 session at Rutherford Community Center:

Robert Shumaker	WB8AGV	Extra
William Burke	WA2NCH	Extra
Pablo Solsana	KK4YCZ	Extra
Valery Pechuritsa	WB4AAA	General
Tyler Krone	KM4HQG	General

Next session 1900 Thu 14-May-2015

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!



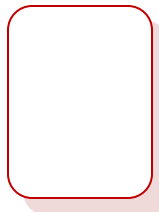
the Radio Flyer

5724 Regency Circle West
Boca Raton, FL 33496-2760

Email KG4FUR@n4brf.org with Articles/Constructive Critique



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



Paperless Amateur Radio License Policy Effective February 17

ARRL Bulletin 4 ARLB004

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC has continued to print and mail hard copy licenses. In mid-December the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had proposed in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official Manager. The FCC will continue to provide ("Active" status only) via the ULS paper license documents to authorization License all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization - as well as an unofficial "reference copy" - from the ULS License Manager.

"We find this electronic process will improve efficiency by simplifying access to official authorizations in ULS, shortening the time period between grant of an application and access to the official authorization, and reducing regulatory costs," the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said. According to the WTB, the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including the cost of staff resources.

In comments filed November 5, the ARRL had strongly recommended that the FCC "give serious consideration to continuing a default provision for sending an initial paper license document to new licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, along with detailed, simple instructions for how to make the elections set forth in the notice relative to future modified or renewed licenses."

The FCC said that applicants or licensees who include a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official electronic authorization via e-mail. New license applicants who do not provide a FCC Registration Number at the examination point will receive a printed license as well as an FRN and a temporary password to access the Commission Registration System (CORES).

The ARRL and other Amateur Radio commenters also worried that unless a license document is printed on distinctive paper stock, its authenticity could be questioned in such situations as obtaining vanity call sign license plates. To address this, the FCC said the watermark "Official Copy" will be printed on each page of an official authorization that a licensee prints out from the ULS. The WTB recently stopped using distinctive paper stock to produce hard copy licenses and has been printing these on "standard, white recycled paper." The Bureau noted that the distinctive paper stock it had used was six times more expensive than the plain recycled paper it now uses.

The ULS License Manager now includes settings that allow licensees to notify the WTB that they prefer to receive official authorizations on paper. Once the final procedures go into effect designating electronic access as the default, licensees can change the ULS License Manager setting so that the Bureau will print and mail a license document. Licensees also may contact FCC Support via the web at, http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact_fcc_support, or via telephone or mail to request paper licenses.

The FCC rejected as "outside the scope of this proceeding" an ARRL argument that Section 97.23 of the Amateur Service rules be amended to replace "licensee mailing address" with other alternatives, including e-mail, for use in Commission correspondence. The rule, which requires that any licensee mailing address be in an area where the licensee has US Postal Service access, has precluded FCC issuance of location-specific call signs in such areas as Navassa Island (KP1) and some Pacific islands.

Next Skywarn Class k9ee

The next Palm Beach County Skywarn class will be Saturday, April 18, 2015 at the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) from 9 AM to 2 PM. Anyone interested in the class should fill out the class registration form on the county web site (www.pbcskywarn.org) or send me directly an email with your name, full address and phone number (cell phone preferred).

CERT Morikami

This year's CERT Morikami will be held on Saturday 07 March 2015 in the Lake Biwa pavilion (same area as last year in Morikami Park).

Weekly Webcast - Amateur Radio Roundtable w5kub

You are invited to Amateur Radio Roundtable, a new series of W5KUB.com weekly webcasts. The webcast will be **Tuesday nights at 8:00 PM Central Time (0200 UTC Wednesdays)** at W5KUB.COM

Amateur Radio Roundtable is an informal discussion of all aspects of ham radio with the intent of allowing viewers to watch this live webcast or be a guest via Skype or Google Hangout. A question and answer session with viewers will follow each topic.

This week's show will cover subjects; such as, near space balloon launch, SDR, digital modes, DXing, home brewing, etc

- To watch Amateur Radio Roundtable: Go to w5kub.com, click on Live Events and sign in. If you have a W5KUB account, use your User Name and Password. If you don't have a W5KUB account, sign in with a call or name without a password.
- To be a guest on Amateur Radio Roundtable: Guests will need a Google+ account, microphone, and camera. Guests will be provided with a link (midway through the show) to make a virtual appearance in the Roundtable.

If you have a specific subject that you would like to present in a future show, send an email to tom@W5KUB.com.

Join us for fun and interesting ham radio programming. See you on the webcast!



We just received our award for the 2014 January VHF Contest. We came in 1st Place SFL Sec Ltd Multioperator and 10th Place W/VE. The 2015 Contest recently ended.

What is ARRL Field Day?



ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

What is the ARRL?

The American Radio Relay League is the 165,000+ member national association for Amateur Radio in the USA. ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

What is Amateur Radio

Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. Its people range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Even rocket scientists and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks like you and me who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can make and modify their equipment, but can create whole new ways to do things.

For More Information visit: www.arrl.org

When and Where are Field Day this year?

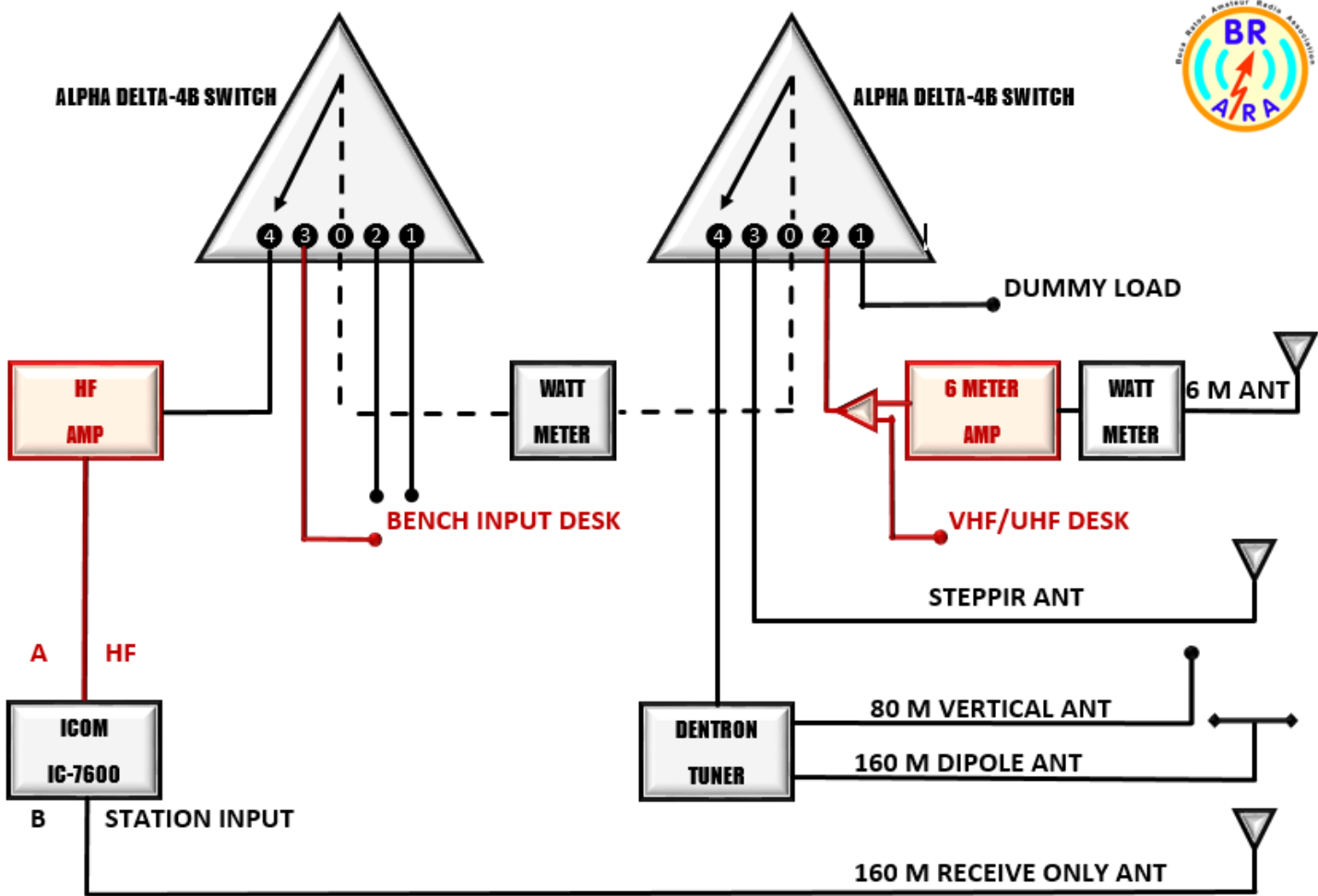
Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Field Day 2015 is June 27-28. The Club will again locate in the parking garage at FAU, Boca Campus.



www.arrl.org

2015 ARRL FIELD DAY

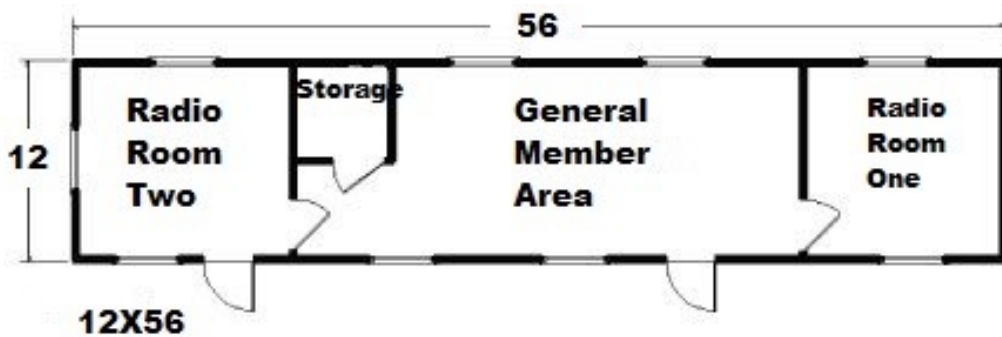
HAM RADIO)))



RG-8X
RG-8



Proposed New Trailer Location [red rectangle]



Although still is discussion, and awaiting a recommendation from the New Shack Committee, the larger trailer could accommodate two separate Radios Station areas (Radio Rooms), a Parts Storage area, and a General Member area for training, Special Committee meetings and a work bench area.