



# the *Radio Flyer*, a *BRARA Newsletter*

January 2018

Official Website: [www.BRARA.org](http://www.BRARA.org)

## BRARA Calendar:

**Mon 01-Jan-2018 New Years Day-No Nets**

**19:00 Mon 01-Jan-18 (145.29 [110.9])**  
Monday Night Nets

**19:00-21:00 Tue 02-Jan-18**  
Club Meeting @ West Boca Library

**09:00-12:00 Wed 03-Jan-18**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day

**09:00-13:00 Sat 07-Jan-17**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day

**20:00-21:00 Sun 06-Jan-18 (443.300)**  
DMR-FL-LO Tech Net [TS2 TG2]

**19:00 Mon 08-Jan-18 (145.29 [110.9])**  
Monday Night Nets

**09:00-12:00 Wed 10-Jan-18**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day

**09:00-12:00 Sat 13-Jan-18**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day

**20:00-21:00 Sun 14-Jan-18 (443.300)**  
DMR-FL-LO Tech Net [TS2 TG2]

**Mon 15-Jan-2018 MLK Day**

**19:00 Mon 15-Jan-18 (145.29 [110.9])**  
Monday Night Nets

**09:00-12:00 Wed 17-Jan-18**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day

**Thu 19-Jan-2018 REL Birthday**

**09:00-12:00 Sat 20-Jan-18**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day

**20:00-21:00 Sun 21-Jan-18 (443.300)**  
DMR-FL-LO Tech Net [TS2 TG2]

**19:00 Mon 22-Jan-18 (145.29 [110.9])**  
Monday Night Nets

**09:00-12:00 Wed 24-Jan-18**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day

**Sat/Sun 27/28-Jan-18 ARRL Field Day**  
18:00 UTC Sat 27-Jan-18 through  
20:59 UTC Sun 28-Jan-18 Field Day

**12:00 Noon Sun 28-Jan-18**  
Deadline for Newsletter Input

**20:00-21:00 Sun 28-Jan-18 (443.300)**  
DMR-FL-LO Tech Net [TS2 TG2]

**19:00 Mon 29-Jan-18 (145.29 [110.9])**  
Monday Night Nets

**09:00-12:00 Wed 31-Jan-18**  
Ham Shack Work & Radio Day



## This Month's Speaker

This month (2 January) Gerry Gawaldo KG4FUR will go over the subtle differences between Winter Field Day and ARRL Summer Field Day. See his Bio on Page 7.

We are currently without a speaker for February 2018.

We have speaker openings for the balance of next year. Please contact the new Board, if you are interested or know someone who gives a great presentation.



## Repeater, HSMM, & Ham Shack News

Even though the new Shack is operational, there are still a lot of areas for innovation and improvement. We still meet every Wednesday and Saturday morning roughly between 09:00 and 13:00.

Both analog repeaters are working. Innovation and improvement opportunities are present here too. The work on the new 2m antenna and connections are completed

Repeater 2m/70cm linking as well as the time stamp are still works in progress. We are still fund collecting for a new 2m repeater antenna.

While the digipeater is operational, the packet repeater is a work in progress.

We have still not solved the limited internet connection and are still dependent on individual hot spots. We are, however, getting closer to resolving the internet link from the Repeater.

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## QSL Report <sup>n4ii</sup>

As we closed out the Year, N4BRF has logged in 3,110 QSLs 9,638 QSOs (32.3%) on LoTW.

**DXCC Account Status:** Nothing new this month. *Awards received: Mixed, CW, Phone, 20m, 17m, 15m and 10m.* We havare now 269 Mixed DXCC.

**WAS Account Status:** New this month: CO 20m Dig, FT8; IL FT8; IN FT8; NJ 20m Digital, FT8; NY FT8; OH 40m Digital, 20m Digital, FT8; OK 20m digital, FT8; PA 20m JT65, FT8. *Awards issued: Mixed, 20m, CW, Phone, Digital, Triple Play, RTTY.* Nothing new this month: DE-40m CW. We still need:

- AK, ID for 40m
- WV for 15m
- WY for 20m Phone
- AK, ID, NV for 40m CW.

We have received the following QSOs from Field Day activities:

- 176 (+0) QSLs from 2012
- 186 (+0) QSOs from 2013
- 262 (+0) QSOs from 2014
- 286 (+0) QSOs from 2015
- 165 (+1) QSOs from 2016
- 246 (+2) QSOs from 2017

**VUCC Account Status:** Nothing new this month.

Update at the next Club Meeting.

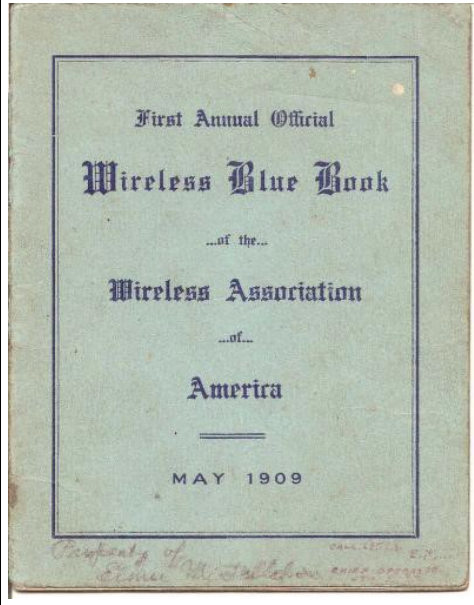




## Do You Recall?

Ever been tempted to look up one of your old call signs? Most callbooks (but not all) are archived at this site. It includes the first "official" callbook from 1909.

<https://archive.org/details/callbook>



## You'll Get a Charge Out of This

Battery University™ is a free educational website. Battery University is a free educational website offering hands-on battery information to engineers, educators, media, students and battery users alike. The tutorials evaluate the advantages and limitations of battery chemistries, advise on best battery choice and suggest ways to extend battery life.

<http://batteryuniversity.com/>





## Monday Night Nets

### KQ4FUR

BRARA runs two significant Monday Night Nets on the 145.290 MHz - 0.600 [110.9] repeater:

⇒ BRARA Voice Communications Net: **19:00-20:00**. Out-of-Area Amateurs may check-in via EchoLink. Our Node is 826953.

⇒ BRARA INBEMS Net: **20:00-20:30**. Analog Voice and FLDigi/FLMsg mixed mode.

## NBEMS KQ4FUR

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

## Scheduled Nets

Mon 20:00 BRARA NBEMS  
145.290 -0.6 110.9

Tue 19:30 PBC NBEMS  
147.285 +0.6 103.5

## Other Local HAM

### Analog Repeater Nets

Daily 18:00 SEFL Traffic

Tue 19:30 Gtr Boca/Delray CERT  
146.61 MHz  
443.1 MHz

Fri 09:00 SARNet:  
PBC 443.975 MHz  
FTL 442.850 MHz

## Scheduled DMR Nets

Day	EDST	Talk Group
Sun	2000	TG-2 (LO) FL Tech
Wed	2100	TG-03 (NA) NATech
Sat	1200	TG-01 (WW)

## Local DMR Repeaters

Location	Rx Freq	Color Code
Miami	444.9875	1 SEFL
Miami	442.2250	1 dmr-fl
N Dade	443.1250	10 ipse2
Dania Bch	442.4000	1 dmr.mar
Plantation	442.4250	1 dmr.mar
Ft Laud.	443.6250	1 SEFL
Boca Raton	442.0000	8
Delray Bch	443.3000	1 SEFL
Wellington	442.3000	7 dmr.fl
Lk Worth	443.2500	7 BMR
WPB	444.9125	1 SEFL
PBG	442.1000	10 dmr.fl
Stuart	440.7000	1 dmr.mar
PSL 1	440.0000	1 dmr.mar
PSL 2	440.750	10 nj.trbo
Naples	444.9850	1 DMR+
Marco Island	444.8125	1 DMR+

## Social Media Committee

A committee was formed to update, simplify and modernize BRARA social media: W4BFL (Jerry), KO4XL (Bruce), NE4LS (Nelson), N1QFH (John C), N8IFQ .

## 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:

K4BH (Jeff S), KE4OBV (Patrick),  
KO4XL (Bruce), N1QFH (John C)  
WA2VNV (George), W4AEQ (Jeff R),  
W4BFL (Jerry),

will hold scheduled monthly meetings at 11:00 at the shack on the Saturday preceding the next General Meeting. Additional impromptu meetings may be held at the Shack on Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

## 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.

**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.

## Apparel Donations

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

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

**\$40 donation**—BRARA button down red cotton/poly shirt (short sleeve)

## Membership Application & Renewal

- ☐ \$35 Full Membership
- ☐ \$10 Assoc 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

☐ DMR ☐ MARS ☐ CERT

☐ Award Chasing ☐ Ragchewing

☐ Building & Experimenting ☐ Satellite

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Return with dues to BRARA at either:*

BRARA  
P.O. Box 480162  
Delray Beach, FL 33448-0162

Or

to a director at the Shack on  
Wednesday or Saturday  
morning radio days.

## Amateur License Refresher

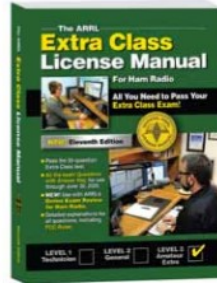
It's probably been awhile since you took your Amateur License exam. Here are a few sample questions just to keep those synapses firing.

### Extra Pool

#### E1A01

When using a transceiver that displays the carrier frequency of phone signals, which of the following displayed frequencies represents the highest frequency at which a properly adjusted USB emission will be totally within the band?

- A. The exact upper band edge
- B. 300 Hz below the upper band edge
- C. 1 kHz below the upper band edge
- D. 3 kHz below the upper band edge



#### E1A02

When using a transceiver that displays the carrier frequency of phone signals, which of the following displayed frequencies represents the lowest frequency at which a properly adjusted LSB emission will be totally within the band?

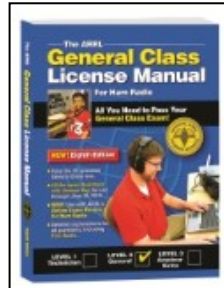
- A. The exact lower band edge
- B. 300 Hz above the lower band edge
- C. 1 kHz above the lower band edge
- D. 3 kHz above the lower band edge

### General Pool

#### G1A03

On which of the following bands is image transmission prohibited?

- A. 160 meters
- B. 30 meters
- C. 20 meters
- D. 12 meters



#### G1A04

Which of the following amateur bands is restricted to communication on only specific channels, rather than frequency ranges?

- A. 11 meters
- B. 12 meters
- C. 30 meters
- D. 60 meters

### Answers to License Refresher:

- E1A01 (D) [97.301, 97.305]
- E1A02 (D) [97.301, 97.305]
- G1A03 (B) [97.305]
- G1A04 (D) [97.303 (h)]

## Newsletter Guidelines *kg4fur*

Thanks for all who submitted articles and I hope you continue to do so. We're also looking for new writers as well. Here are some guidelines for article submissions.

- Text should be in MS Word or equivalent, saved as a .DOC file. ASCII text written in an email works too.
- Write your best stuff, but don't sweat the grammar. That's why there's an editor.
- Please submit pictures/illustrations as separate files, don't embed them in the text.
- Be sure to submit clear, in-focus photos

Got an idea for an article? Or constructive critique? Want to share club news and events? How about writing a short 30-minute project idea? Your submissions to the Red Flyer are needed to help keep this one of the best club newsletters in South Florida.

Please send articles to  
KG4FUR@BRARA.org



## New Hams Corner *WA2NTW*

### Microphones

One thing hams are always known for is having a microphone that is "cool". Today most HTs have a built in mic that is adequate. You can hear what is being said but not with great quality. One way to improve that is to use an external mic.

Some are inexpensive and just meant as a way to separate your mouth from the radio. Others will actually give you a better sound. The problem is too many ways of attachment to the radio.

Years ago you could buy connectors, get the wiring schematic and wire the mic to work with the radio. It is not as easy today but still can be done. First you want to know if the mic is compatible with the radio. Next is getting a connector that will fit the radio.

For HTs that is sometimes a difficult task. Search online to see if one can be had from the few Amateur Radio dealers left. Once you have parts in hand, take time to solder them on correctly. If you don't own a soldering iron maybe now is the time to buy one.

Otherwise borrow one from another ham. Check your work before trying the mic on the radio. Then do an on air test with someone. Make contact without the external mic and then plug it in to see what kind of difference you have made.

For home shacks, a lot of people will get a really good mic. The same things said above still apply. The benefits of desk mics can only be gained by the folks on the other end, But people are much more willing to chat with someone who has a GREAT signal!

This has been realized by many who work contests and DX. A strong, well modulated signal can be heard above others. So for you soft spoken folks keep this in mind when thinking about what will your next purchase be for the radio you love!

73 de WA2NTW





## Ham Humor

# Ham Humor: Electrifying New On-Air Event Planned

By WBØRUR, on the scene

*NEWINGSTEAD, VT — The National Radio Retransmission Legion today unveiled plans for next year's much anticipated amateur radio operating event.*

The "World Power Grid Chase 2018" will encourage ham radio operators to get on the air from utility poles and electrical sub-stations around the world. Each location is identified by a unique 6 character code which every operator will be forced to look up multiple times during an activation because, honestly, they're pretty hard to remember.

NRRL CEO Bob Gilligan - adjusting his ascot and repositioning his captain's hat - says the "World Power Grid Chase 2018" idea has been in the works for some time.

"Admittedly, we struggled a bit to come up with something with the same strong sex appeal as 2016's NPOOTA (National Pizza Ovens On The Air). As I sailed around the cape aboard my 37 foot yacht watching the seagulls snap up the mackerel, I realized it's hard to surpass the combined excitement of a stuffed crust pepperoni pizza and RF. But we really think we're onto something electrifying now!"

Here's How You Can Get In On The World Power Grid Chase 2018  
The goal of the NRRL World Power Grid Chase is simple - work as many portable stations set up at utility poles and electrical sub-stations as possible.

Then, upload your contact to the NRRL's Logbook of the Globe (LOG). And if you're not registered with LOG, now's a good time to start! It's absolutely free and will only take 2.75 hours to register. Soon, you'll get a postcard in the mail with a password - but that's not the password you use to login. So watch for an email blast from NRRL with connection information on how to retrieve your access code and get into the double-blind Linux server. Then you're ready to start your Power Grid chase! Every new power pole or electrical substation you contact counts towards

your monthly total. And if you set up a portable station and activate a power pole or electrical substation (note: ground rods strongly encouraged) you get double the points!

Each month, you can check out the leaderboard and see how your QSO totals rank among your fellow hams. We'll do all the hard math work for you because after getting set up with Logbook of the Globe - you'll be bushed!

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q: Can I set up at any power pole or electrical substation? Does it have to be one on my property?**

**A:** Any available power pole or electrical substation is available for activation.

**Q: Can I set up at a power pole or electrical substation on my in-laws property?**

**A:** Any available power pole or electrical substation is available for activation.

**Q: How close do I need to be to the power pole or the electrical substation?**

**A:** You should be within 20 feet, unless you are feeling the tiny hairs on the back of your neck stand up - then it is advised to move.

**Q: I have an electrical power generating dam near my QTH. Can I set up there?**

**A:** We have not yet implemented The DAM WORLD POWERGRID CHASE at this time.

**Q: Can I activate the power meter on the side of my house?**

**A:** Not sure we understand the question.

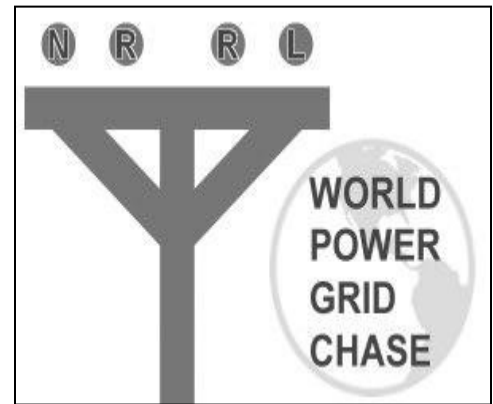
**Q: How many power poles and electrical substations are available to be activated?**

**A:** So, so, so many. And you'll find that some are literally in the middle of nowhere! We suspect some hams will drive around the United States trying to activate all of them. But surprise! You can't drive to the South Pole.

**Q: Will you have operating awards at the end of the year for the most International Power Grid contacts?**

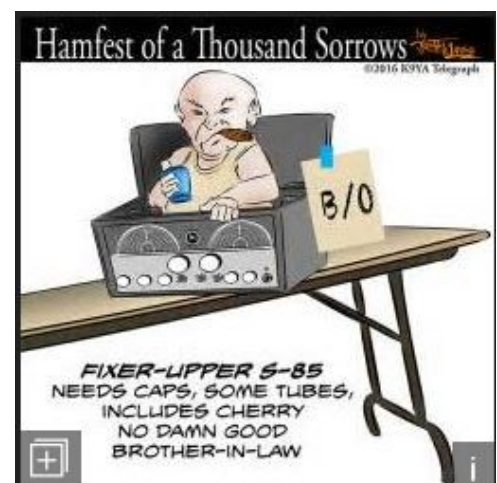
**A:** There will be terrific prizes available! (Fees apply and do not include shipping or handling.)

### hamhijinks.com



Now they've even got a store for them!  
(photo: W8IZC)

# I think therefore I Ham



## Contest and Special Event Operating News and Information

Data below as well as more information courtesy of the following website:  
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>.

Contest and Special Event	Date Time Group
+ AGB New Year Snowball Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 1
+ IQRP Quarterly Marathon	0800Z, Jan 1 to 2000Z, Jan 7
+ SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
+ AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
+ AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Jan 1 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Jan 1 (432)
+ QRP ARCI New Years Sprint	1500Z-1800Z, Jan 1
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 2
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 3
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 3 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 3 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 4
+ UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Jan 3
+ AWA Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest	2300Z, Jan 3 to 2300Z, Jan 4 and 2300Z, Jan 6 to 2300Z, Jan 7
+ NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Jan 4 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 4 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Jan 4 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Jan 4 (Dig)
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 5
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 5
+ PODXS 070 Club PSKFest	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 6
+ WW PMC Contest	1200Z, Jan 6 to 1200Z, Jan 7
+ ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 6 to 2400Z, Jan 7
+ Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Jan 6
+ EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 6 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 7
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 10
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 10 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 10 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 11
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 12
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 12
+ YB DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jan 13
+ Old New Year Contest	0500Z-0900Z, Jan 13
+ UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	1200Z, Jan 13 to 1200Z, Jan 14
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jan 13 to 2400Z, Jan 14
+ North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 13 to 0559Z, Jan 14
+ NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0630Z-0830Z, Jan 14
+ DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 14
+ NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0900Z-1100Z, Jan 14
+ Midwinter Contest	1000Z-1400Z, Jan 14
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 17

### ***“Da Prez Sez”:***

Whew! We've all made it through December's madness and a New Year is upon us. With the New Year comes new opportunities and responsibilities. In my case, as your new club president, this means stepping up my game and learning how to fill the big shoes left by my predecessor. I hope that you will bear with me and the other new officers and board members as we do our best to help BRARA to thrive and grow over the next three years.

We all owe a huge thank you to two people who have been instrumental to our success: Gerry KG4FUR and Art WA8VSJ. Both of these gentlemen stepped up and stepped in when their predecessors were unable to complete their respective terms. This speaks volumes to their character and their dedication to service. Under their leadership we have grown both in size and in our stature in the Amateur community. Your new board is dedicated to continuing along the successful trail that they have blazed.

As a group, we have much to be proud and thankful for. Not only has our membership grown, but the level of member participation in our club's events and activities far exceeds what is typical for most organizations. Nowhere was this more evident than in the acquisition and construction of our new station facility in West Delray Park. Literally dozens of our members pitched in with their knowledge, skills, funds and lots of sweat to create a station that is the envy of our Amateur community.

As an ARRL Special Service Club, we should take pride in the fact that four of our members have been appointed to positions in the Southern Florida Section. Thanks to the dedication of these and many other active club members, we continue to serve our community by providing license training and testing, participating as communicators in local events, and engaging with our local schools and youth organizations to stimulate young people's interest in Amateur Radio.

I think the recurring theme in all of this is the fantastic collection of wisdom and abilities represented by you - our members, along with your enthusiasm and dedication to working together to accomplish our goals. To me, this is the most important legacy of our past, and something that Jeff W4AEQ, John N1QFH, Patrick KE4OBV, George WA2VNV, Jerry W4BFL, Jeff K4BH and I all hope to support and sustain as we move forward into the future.

I wish all of you the happiest and healthiest of New Years, and look forward to working with all of you in the coming months.

73,  
Bruce KO4XL

<b>Contest and Special Event</b>	<b>Date Time Group</b>
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 17 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 17 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 18
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 18
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 19
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 19
+ LZ Open Contest	1800Z-2200Z, Jan 19
+ Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 20 to 1159Z, Jan 21
<b>+ North American QSO Party, SSB</b>	<b>1800Z, Jan 20 to 0559Z, Jan 21</b>
<b>+ ARRL January VHF Contest</b>	<b>1900Z, Jan 20 to 0359Z, Jan 22</b>
+ WAB 1.8 MHz Phone	1900Z-2300Z, Jan 20
+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2359Z, Jan 20 (EU-AF) and 2300Z, Jan 20 to 0259Z, Jan 21 (ENA- ESA) and 0200Z-0559Z, Jan 21 (ENA-OC-AS)
+ Classic Exchange, CW	1300Z, Jan 21 to 0800Z, Jan 22 and 1300Z, Jan 23 to 0800Z, Jan 24
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 22
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jan 24
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 24
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 24
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 24 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 24 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 25
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 26
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 26
<b>+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW</b>	<b>2200Z, Jan 26 to 2200Z, Jan 28</b>
+ Montana QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 27
+ REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 27 to 1800Z, Jan 28
+ BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 27 to 1200Z, Jan 28
+ UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 27 to 1300Z, Jan 28
<b>+ Winter Field Day</b>	<b>1900Z, Jan 27 to 1900Z, Jan 28</b>
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 31
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 31 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 31 and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 1
+ UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Jan 31

## *Speaker Bio:*

Gerry Gawaldo received his Bachelors of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis on Commerce and Transportation in 1971 and his Masters of Business Administration with an emphasis on Economics and Statistics in 1977 from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is also a Graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College (1982) and a retired Lieutenant Colonel. In civilian Life he is a double retired Planner previously working for Port Authority of Allegheny County and then Palm Beach County's Palm Tran.

His interest in Amateur Radio began while stationed with the United States Army Support Command Hawaii, where he was given the assignment as Deputy MARS Director. His boss strongly suggested that he get an Amateur Radio License and he did (WH6IHK).

Upon returning to Pittsburgh, he changed his call (WA3YPG) but was not very active. As a Tech he did join the Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society.

Upon retiring from Port Authority, he relocated to Boca Raton changing his call again (KG4FUR). When he turned 60, his wife (Cristi) strongly suggested that he get hobbies before he retired again. Being a dutiful husband with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), he complied. Joining BRARA, he was drafted to join the Board of Directors and was volunteered to become the Acting President. He got his General and Extra Tickets punched shortly. Six years later he called it quits.

Gerry is still active in both BRARA and Boca Raton's Community Emergency Response Team Program, retains membership in Chapter 111 QCWA, and his certification as a Graphic Information Systems Professional (GISP), ARRL/LARC Volunteer Examiner, and AREC Field Examiner.

He serves as NCS for two South CARS Nets, the DMR-FL Local Tech Net, and the CERT Plan A & B Nets. He is also retains certification in Skywarn and over 20 NIMS courses including both G-300 and Florida's Strategic National Stockpile Training Program. He is also active in his HOA serving on both the Master and Sub-Association as well as various committees (Design Review Board, Engineering, Security, and Emergency Response).

Other professional affiliations include the American Society of Highway Engineers [ASHE], Reserve Officers Association [ROA], and a Signal Corps Regimental Affiliation.



## ***DX Operating News and Information***

Credit for the below information and further information can be found at the following website: <http://www.ng3k.com>

<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>DXCC</b>	<b>Call</b>	<b>QSL via</b>	<b>Reported by</b>	<b>Information</b>
2017 Dec21	2018 Jan15	<b>Senegal</b>	<b>6W</b>		F6AJA	By F6HMJ as 6W/F6HMJ; mainly 20-10m; CW, some SSB
2017 Dec25	2018 Jan12	<b>Senegal</b>	<b>6W</b>	WA3DX Direct	<a href="#">DXNews</a>	By WA3DX as 6W1/WA3DX fm Dakar, also 6W7/WA3DX fm Mbao and 6W6/WA3DX fm Kaolack and Saloum Is; 40-10m; SSB SSTV
2018 Jan01	2018 Jan10	<b>Martinique</b>	<b>FM</b>	DD0VR	<a href="#">TDDX</a>	By DF3BW DD0VR as FM/DD0VR; 40 20 15 10m; SSB
2018 Jan01	2018 Jan31	<b>So Shetland Is</b>	<b>RI50AN O</b>	LotW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a>	By UA1OJL fm Belligshausen Station; HF; QSL also OK via RN1ON and Club Log; operation to continue until Mar 31
2018 Jan10	2018 Jan14	<b>Dominica</b>	<b>J70VR</b>	DD0VR	<a href="#">TDDX</a>	By DF3BW DD0VR; 40 20 15 10m; SSB
2018 Jan10	2018 Jan23	<b>Jamaica</b>	<b>6Y6J</b>	LotW	<a href="#">DXNews</a>	By JA3HJI JA3UJR JH3LSS JI3DNN JA3AVO; 160-6m; CW SSB + digital; QSL also OK via JA3AVO (JARL Buro or direct), Club Log
2018 Jan10	2018 Jan24	<b>Panama</b>	<b>HP</b>	AA4NC	AA4NC	By AA4NC as HP/AA4NC fm several different HP call areas
2018 Jan13	2018 Jan21	<b>Cayman Is</b>	<b>ZF2PG</b>	LotW	<a href="#">DXNews</a>	By K8PGJ fm Grand Cayman I (IOTA NA-016); 160-10m; SSB; QSL also OK via K8PGJ direct
2018 Jan14	2018 Jan20	<b>Guadeloupe</b>	<b>FG</b>	DD0VR	<a href="#">TDDX</a>	By DF3BW DD0VR as FG/DD0VR; 40 20 15 10m; SSB
2018 Jan21	2018 Jan27	<b>St Vincent</b>	<b>J88PI</b>	GW4DVB	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a>	By GW4DVB fm Palm I (IOTA NA-025, FK92ho); 40-6m; mainly SSB
2018 Jan24	2018 Jan30	<b>Aruba</b>	<b>P4</b>		DL4MM	By DL4MM as P4/DL4MM; focus on 160 80m for JA and Asia; QRV using P40AA during CQ 160m CW as SO assisted
2018 Jan24	2018 Feb19	<b>Guatemala</b>	<b>TG9</b>	VE7BV	VE7BV	By VE7BV as TG9/VE7BV; 40 20 17 15 12m; holiday style operation; perhaps some HR5 activity fm Copan Ruinas
2018 Jan25	2018 Mar14	<b>Bouvet I</b>	<a href="#">3Y0Z</a>	N2OO	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a>	By EY8MM HA5AO JR4OZR K0IR K4UEE K9CT LA6VM N4GRN N6HC N9TK NM1Y PA5M SM5AQD VA7DX VE7CT W0GJ W6IZT W8HC WB9Z; 160-10m; tentative dates
2018 Jan29	2018 Feb12	<b>St Kitts &amp; Nevis</b>	<b>V47UR</b>		<a href="#">TDDX</a>	By W3UR fm Calypso Bay; 160-6m; CW SSB; spare time operation



# Winter Field Day 2017



**FM 2 pm (19:00 UTC) Sat 27-Jan-18**

**To 2 pm (19:00 UTC) Sun 28 Jan 2018**

**At BRARA Ham Shack in W Delray Pk**

**10875 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33446**



**EVERYONE IS WELCOME: HAMS, Family, Friends, Perspective HAMS**

**Talk-In Repeaters: Analog 145.290 MHz (PL 110.9) or DMR 443.300 TS2 TG2**

**Enjoy WFD18 with us:**

- 3 Emergency powered stations (15, 20 & 40 m band pass filters)
- SteppIR and 2 Fan Dipoles
- Ham Camaraderie in Temperature Controlled Environment

**Contacts:**

- Gerry Gawaldo    561-706-8338    KG4FUR@yahoo.com or
- Art Lewis        330-518-6868    WA8VSJ@gmail.com

**Modes: CW, SSB, AM, FM, DStar, C4FM, DMR, Packet, PSK, SSTV, RTTY, Olivia, Satellite, etc**

**All Bands except: 12m, 17m, 30m & 60m**

**WFD Exchange [Call, Class, ARRL Section] : N4BRF 3I SFL (3-India {indoor})**

# BRARA TECH CLASS TRAINING



**9:00am – 5:00pm Sat/Sun**

**3/4 Feb 2018**



**At the Ham Shack in West Delray Park**

**10875 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33446**



## FREE LAUREL HAM LICENSE TESTING

**7:00pm – 9:00pm Thu**

**8 Feb 2018**

**James A Rutherford Comm Ctr, Patch Reef Pk**

**2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton, FL 33431**

### Requirements:

- Enthusiasm for the Hobby and Willingness to Learn & Study
- Note Pad and Two No.2 Pencils with Erasers
- For Testing: Current License (if you have one), Picture ID, SSN or FRN

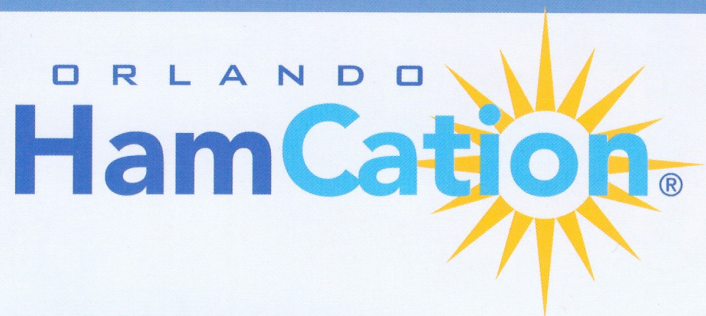
**Talk-In Repeaters: Analog 145.290 MHz (PL 110.9) or DMR 443.300 TS2 TG2**

### Contacts:

- Bruce Ratoff      561-862-8198    Training@BRARA.org
- Jerry Zaza        305-706-8338    Testing@BRARA.org



# 2018 ADVANCE RESERVATION FORM



February 9th, 10th, & 11th, 2018  
Central Florida Fairgrounds and Expo  
4603 W Colonial Dr, Orlando, FL 32808

**Reservation Received After 12/31/2017  
Will Be Held At Will-Call!**

NAME, COMPANY, OR CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

## RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV)

ARRIVAL DAY (circle one): WED 02/07 THU 02/08 FRI 02/09 SAT 02/10

HOW MANY NIGHTS: \_\_\_\_\_

X \$30/night =

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

## SWAP TABLES - Balance must be paid in full before 12/31/2017 to guarantee reserved tables.

HOW MANY: \_\_\_\_\_

X \$55/each =

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

TABLE #: \_\_\_\_\_

## TAILGATE SPACES - If you stay overnight you MUST pay overnight fee. Use RV section above.

HOW MANY (20'X20'): \_\_\_\_\_

X \$45/each =

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS - Tickets purchased after 12/31/2017 are \$17/ea.

HOW MANY: \_\_\_\_\_

X \$15/each =

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

HOW MANY: \_\_\_\_\_

X \$17/each =

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form, along with your check made payable to Orlando HamCation, to the address below. **YOU MUST INCLUDE A #10 Business Size Self Addressed and Stamped Envelope (S.A.S.E) with your form.** Mailed reservations that do not include the S.A.S.E will be held at the Will-Call window at the event. This MAY cause some delay for you.



ORLANDO HAMCATION®  
P.O. BOX 574962  
ORLANDO, FL 32857-4962

[www.hamcation.com](http://www.hamcation.com) | [info@hamcation.com](mailto:info@hamcation.com)  
Phone: 407-841-0874 | Toll Free: 800-214-7541

Orlando HamCation organization has a standing refund policy. No refunds unless all the paperwork has been received by USPS mail 10 days before the show starts. It is the discretion of the HamCation Chairman to execute any and all refunds. No food or drink sales allowed on the fairgrounds property by any HamCation vendor or attendee. Weapons are not allowed on fairgrounds property. No animals, except service animals, in any of the buildings, social hall, or forums.



## Southwest Hamfest

**Start Date:** 01/19/2018

**End Date:** 01/20/2018

**Location:** Riverside Church of Fort Myers

8660 Daniels Parkway

Fort Myers, FL 33901

**Website:** <http://swflhamfest.info>

**Sponsor:** Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-In:** 147.345 (PL 136.5)

**Public Contact:** Harold A Drew , KM4WNF

12407 Davis Blvd. Fort Myers, FL 33905

Phone: 239-309-3660

**Email:** [dfoyl50@gmail.com](mailto:dfoyl50@gmail.com)

## Florida State

### Convention—

## Orlando HamCation

**Start Date:** 02/09/2018

**End Date:** 02/11/2018

**Location:** Central Florida Fairgrounds

4603 West Colonial Drive

Orlando, FL 32801

**Website:** <http://www.hamcation.com>

**Sponsor:** Orlando Amateur Radio Club

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Talk-In:** 146.76 (no PL tone during hamfest)

**Public Contact:** John Knott , N4JTK

PO Box 574962 Orlando, FL 32857

Phone: 407-841-0874

**Email:** [info@hamcation.com](mailto:info@hamcation.com)

## Free Laurel

## VEC Testing



Sun 7-Jan-2018, 11:00-13:00, Fire Station 28, 1040 RPB Blvd, Royal Palm Beach [PWARC] (1st Sunday of odd months).

Tue 09-Jan-2018, 18:00-19:30, Broward Gen MC, 1600 S Andrews Ave, Ft Lauderdale [BARC] (2nd Tue of every month).

Thu 8-Feb-2018, 19:00-21:00, Rutherford Com Ctr, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton, FL 33498 [BRARA] (Quarterly: Feb, May, Aug, Nov)

## Welcome New Members:

K4OUJ  
KN4GKT

Bruce Goldman  
James Smith

## For more on BRARA:

**Website:** [www.brara.org](http://www.brara.org)

**Twitter:** [BRARA\\_N4BRF](https://twitter.com/BRARA_N4BRF)

**Instagram:** [#BRARA\\_N4BRF](https://www.instagram.com/BRARA_N4BRF)

**Facebook:**

[facebook.com/BRARA-138743906714224](https://facebook.com/BRARA-138743906714224)

Please be advised that the above are the official BRARA social media sites. No other social media sites are recognized by BRARA.

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## BRARA Ham Shack

### Key Rules <sup>K4Lew</sup>

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 session with K4LEW (Lew), W4BFL (Jerry), W4WCD (Walt) or N4CGC (Max).

## the Radio Flyer's Purpose

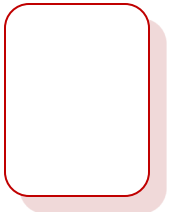
The purpose of this newsletter is to keep club members and other interested hams updated on club events and ham activities in the Greater Boca Raton Area. We hope you enjoy this month's <sup>the RF</sup> as much as we did publishing it!



the Radio Flyer

P.O. Box 480162

Delray Beach, FL 33448-0162



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

