



News from



The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

October 2017

Hello Worms

The last two months have been pretty hard on places all around us. From flooding to hurricanes and earth quakes it seems that Mother Nature is pissed off at something. All I can do is look around and be thankful for what I have and hope the catastrophes don't come here.

For those who cannot hit the Wormhole repeater from the meeting area and north the Honeywell club invited us to use theirs. So in addition to monitoring our repeater we will also monitor the Honeywell club repeater on 443.050 + 103.5. Give us a call if you need information or directions.

I have a shirt order so I will be taking other orders at the meeting. Sizes and prices available are on the website <http://w4orm.org/>.

The five day weather forecast is always wrong but you can figure on a 50% chance of rain, a low of mid to high 70s and a high of low to mid 90s.

Bring a folding chair if you have one.

*** HAM? HAM radio? ham radio? Amateur Radio? amateur radio!***

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the

[Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club](#)—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure:

The brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many people bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs.

Ward, N0AX, offered this explanation:

To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns.

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this.

I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. When he's not picking nits about the name of our hobby, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

NEW INTERNET EXPLORER SECURITY BUG

by John Lister InfoPackets on September, 28 2017

A newly discovered Internet Explorer bug means rogue websites can track the next site a user visits, or even the next search the user makes. While it's not necessarily devastating in itself, the researcher who found the bug says it is a sign Microsoft isn't paying enough attention to its old browser.

The bug means that a 'rogue' web page could access the content of whatever the user types in to the Internet Explorer address bar as soon as they press the Enter key. This would normally be another website address, but the way Internet Explorer works means it could also be a search term.

Security researcher Manuel Caballero has demonstrated the bug with a page that updates to show what the user has typed in. However, he says the bug can also be used without any sign that the site has received the information. (Source: arstechnica.com)

In practice, it's unlikely this would cause a major security risk, as it's something of a long shot that the operator of one page would find something useful and secretive from what the user typed in for their next search or visit.

It's even possible sites could use the bug as a research tool to improve their offerings. By looking at what sites or search terms users move on to next, they could learn more about why users didn't stick around on their own site.

Either way, it's definitely a flaw in the way Internet Explorer works and Caballero says that's the real problem. He believes such a simple issue should either have never arisen or have been caught much earlier.

He also theorizes that Microsoft may have missed the bug because its putting too much of its efforts into the new Edge browser, which is now the default browser in Windows 10. The problem, Caballero argues, is that almost three times as many users use Internet Explorer as use Edge. He believes Microsoft should either give

both browsers sufficient attention, or flat out tell people to stop using Internet Explorer. (Source: brokenbrowser.com)

* RISK OF BLUETOOTH MALWARE INFECTION *

INFOPACKETS by John Lister on September, 13 2017

The majority of Bluetooth devices could be vulnerable to a malware attack. The attack, dubbed BlueBorne, can reportedly spread to devices without needing any action from the victim.

The attack takes advantage of a bug in the Bluetooth technology itself rather than a specific operating system. At one point this summer an estimated 5.3 billion devices were at risk, running Windows, Android or Linux, as well as Apple devices running systems before the current iOS 10.

Fixing the problem will require patches for specific devices and operating systems. Microsoft has patched the issue already, though didn't reveal doing so at the time. Google has issued an Android patch, but when it reaches individual handsets will depend on both the manufacturer and the cellphone service provider.

Normally malware can only spread if the victim visits a compromised website or opens a file attachment. In this case, all that's required is that an attacker is within 32 feet of the victim's device for 10 seconds, and that the victim's device has Bluetooth switched on. The malware can spread even if the device is already connected to something via Bluetooth. Even more worrying is that it doesn't require the attacker to pair their device with the victim's - something that would normally require a security code for a Bluetooth connection to work properly. (Source: armis.com)

Exactly how the attack works varies from system to system. With Windows, the malware was able to intercept and modify network data going to or from a computer. Android devices face the same risk.

Meanwhile, with both Android and Linux, the malware could access the device's memory and force it to run code that could damage the device, use it as part of an online attack, or access or delete data stored on the device, including financial information.

The good news is that the way the bug works means attackers would have to use code for specific operating systems, including different variants of Android. That could make it trickier to attack a victims as well as making it harder for the malware infection to spread rapidly.

As usual in such cases, the key for users is to make sure they get security patches downloaded and installed as quickly as possible. In the meantime, the only surefire way to avoid the problem is switch off Bluetooth altogether, though a more practical compromise might be to keep Bluetooth off when not actively using it. (Source: theverge.com)



CLUB MEETING

The next club meeting is October 7th. We meet on the first Saturday every month at 11:00 Saturday morning at the Minnreg Building located at 6340 126th Ave N, Largo. Talk-in is on the Wormhole repeater system. For those coming to the meeting who cannot hit the repeater we will be monitoring 146.520 simplex, the national calling frequency. We will keep an eye peeled for you. We will take advantage of the cooking facilities with an after-the-meeting Social and Wormdog picnic.

CLUB NETS

Check in on the club net Thursdays at 1930. 442.625 + with a 146.2 tone or the 2M side at 146.850 – also with a tone of 146.2. We are always looking for volunteers to be the net control operator. Anyone interested, talk to one your club officers.

LOCAL NETS

MONDAY

1730 147.030 + Receiver sites and tone info <http://www.qsl.net/wd4scd/>

St Pete Yacht Club ARC St Petersburg

1830 147.060+ no tone St Pete ARC daily net St
Petersburg

1900 144.210 USB CARS, vertical polarization
Clearwater

1900 147.135 +146.2 Zephyrhills ARC
Zephyrhills

2000 147.165+ 136.5 Brandon ARS from
Brandon

2000 50.135
Pinellas County

Pinellas ARK

2030 NI4CE system
system

EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net, NI4CE

2030 145.450
Pinellas County

Pinellas ARK

TUESDAY

1830 147.060 no tone
Petersburg

St Pete ARC daily net

from St

1900 50.200 USB
Brandon ARS

6M net

1900 28.450
Clearwater

WCF section net

1900 NI4CE system
system

WCF Section VHF ARES

NI4CE

1930 145.170 & 442.4 both pl 156.7
Pinellas ACS net

Clearwater

1930 444.900 +141.3

Sheriff's Tactical ARC

Tampa

2000 NI4CE system
system

WCF Skywarn net

NI4CE

2000 147.105+ 146.2
Tampa

Tampa ARC net

from

2000 28.365 USB
ARS

simplex

Brandon

2030 NI4CE system
system

EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net

NI4CE

2100 28.465 USB

10/10 net

from Orlando

WEDNESDAY

1930 146.30 simplex net from Tampa	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	
1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
1930 52.020 simplex Petersburg	Suncoast 6'ers	from St
1930 NI4CE system system	WCF Section Digital Info Ne	NI4CE
2000 147.105 146.2 Tampa	Greater Tampa CERT net	from
2000 146.97- 146.2 Clearwater	Clearwater ARS	from
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
2100 NI4CE system	Tampa Bay Traders Net	non-affiliated

THURSDAY

1800 146.52 simplex Tampa	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	North
1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
1900 444.750 +146.2 Tampa	Fusion net	from
1930 146.850- & 442.625+ both pl 146.2 Petersburg	Wormhole	from St
1930 146.6385 -127.3 Lakeland	Lakeland ARC	from

1915 224.660- no tone
Petersburg St Pete ARC from St

2030 NI4CE system
system EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net NI4CE

FRIDAY

1830 147.060 no tone
Petersburg St Pete ARC daily net from St

2030 NI4CE system
system EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net NI4CE

SATURDAY

0830 3.911 (7.281 Alt.)+/- QRM
Pinellas County WCF Section HF Net from

1830 147.060 no tone
Petersburg St Pete ARC daily net from St

2030 NI4CE system
system EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net NI4CE

SUNDAY

1830 147.060 no tone
Petersburg St Pete ARC daily net from St

1930 NI4CE system
system WCF Section Net NI4CE

2000 147.550 simplex
Pinellas County 550 Simplex Net

2030 NI4CE system
system EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net NI4CE

2100 144.210 USB
orientation Clearwater ARS vertical

FOR SALE / WANTED

Anyone having something for sale or who might be looking for an item let me know. I will not print phone numbers or email addresses unless specifically told to since this newsletter might end up on the web. The exception is when I get the information off the web. If you are a member of the Wormhole then you have all the information you need on a club roster and if you are not a member .. why not? OK, if you are not a member you can contact me at the email address at the end of this newsletter, I will give you the information to contact the person involved.

FOR SALE, WWII Xceiver RT-68 & Power Supply with connecting cable, includes original manual all in very good condition, No idea of operating condition, trying to find a good home.

Free local pick up, St. Pete Beach Fl. Pictures here:

<https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/wwii-xceiver-rt-68-local-pick-up.573447/> and here: <http://bunkerofdoom.com/mil/rt68/index.html> , contact Jack at w4grj@arrl.net

FOR SALE, Mosley TA-33M beam with the 40M add on kit. Antenna is on the ground and in good shape. There are several parts that need replacement. The 40M kit is new in box. Antenna is broken down into six or seven feet sections so easy to handle. Asking \$400, talk to me, Bill AG4QX at arrl dot net or see me at the meeting.

FOR SALE, 13 element, 14.5 ft 220 beam. Wormhole property, \$20, contact Bill AG4QX or any other officer. **Free to any Wormhole member or other club.** Pickup at Bill's house.

HAMFESTS

October 13-14 Melbourne, Florida State Convention, Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd., Talk-In: 146.85- 107.2, <http://www.pcars.org/>, no info on website yet.

- October 21** New Port Richey, Millennium Academy 10005 Ridge Road, Talk-In on 146.670, Contact: Chris Bloxsom , AA4CB @ 727-484-8099 or AA4CB@arrl.net, <http://gulfcoastarc.org>
- October 28** Palm Harbor, Upper Pinellas ARC, this is rumor, nothing on their website <http://w4afcuparc.wixsite.com/uparc>
- November 11** **SPARCFest, Pinellas Park, SPARCFest, FREE, Freedom Lake Park, 9990 46th St N, Southeast corner of US 19 and 49th Street, Talk-in on 147.060+ no tone. VE testing at 0900. For more information go to <http://www.sparc-club.org/sparcfest.html>**
- December 8-9** **Plant City, the 2017 Tampa Bay Hamfest is the West Central Florida Section Convention, Friday and Saturday, at the Expo Building in the Strawberry Festival grounds, for information contact Bill Williams AG4QX, chairman@fgcarc.org or go to <http://www.tampabayhamfest.org> or you can just ask me, Jim or Dee ;-)**
- February 9-11** **Orlando Hamcation, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive, Tickets \$13 in advance, \$15 at door. Talkin 146.4760 - no PL or D-Star 146.850 -, all the information at www.hamcation.com or call 407-841-0874**
- February 24** **West Central Florida Section Technical Conference (3rd Annual TECHCON), Winter Haven, Polk County Emergency Operations Center 1890 Jim Keene Blvd. [Looking for presentations and displays.](#) Talk-In 146.985, 444.625, 443.900 or 444.950, P1 for all 127.3. For info see <http://www.arrlwcf.org/> or contact Darrell Davis KT4WX at kt4wx@arrl.net**
- May 26** **WormFest 2017, Pinellas Park, FREE, Freedom Lake Park, 9990 46th St N, southeast corner of US 19 and 49th Street, 33782. Park opens at sunrise, hamfest starts at 0800**

Talk-in on 442.625 + or 146.850 – both with a tone of 146.2.
For a map and directions see
<http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org> .

Mid January	Frogman swim in Tampa Bay. http://www.tampabayfrogman.com/
Last full weekend January	Winter Field Day, http://www.sparhams.org/index.php
Late January	Gasparilla celebration
March/April	MS Walks
March/April	Mass Casualty Exercises
Late April	Southeastern VHF Society Conference, http://www.svhfs.org
Late April	Walk For Babies (was March of Dimes)
Late April	Florida QSO Party
Mid-May	Annual Armed Forces Crossband Test
Early to Mid May	MS 150 bike ride http://bikeflc.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR?fr_id=28207&pg=entry
Mid-May	Florida Hurricane Exercise
Late May	Wormfest
Early June	Museum Ships on the Air
Fourth weekend in June	Field Day http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/
July 3/4	Midnight Run in Largo http://www.kiwanismidnightrun.com/
August	International Lighthouse/Lightship Week https://illw.net/
October, 3 rd weekend	JOTA, Scout Jamboree-on-the-AIR
Early December	ALS bike ride in Walsingham Park
December, first full weekend	Ride & Run With The Stars in Fort DeSoto Park

December, Second full weekend

Tampa Bay Hamfest <http://www.fgcarc.org/>

YOUR WORMHOLE OFFICERS

Bill AG4QX is President and editor of this newsletter, Vice-President is Mike K4ZPE, Treasurer is Jim KD4MZL, Paul KA4IOX is the Secretary, Dee N4GD is the Repeater Trustee and Neil W4NHL and Mike K4ZPE are our club webmasters.

YOUR WORMHOLE REPEATERS

442.625 + PL 146.2

146.850 - PL 146.2

The Wormhole repeaters are both now dual mode Yaesu DR-1X. FM analog as always and now Yaesu Fusion, a C4FM/FM digital mode. The repeater crew updated the software on May 3, 2016.

The Wormhole website is at: <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org>.

West Central Florida Section website: <http://www.arrlwcf.org/>.

The ARRL website is at: <http://www.arrl.org/>

This newsletter is written for The Glorious Society of the Wormhole, an ARRL affiliated amateur radio club located around the Seminole section of Pinellas County Florida. Anyone wishing to be added or removed from The Glorious Society of the Wormhole mailings please write to me at the address below and they will be done.

73,

Bill Williams

AG4QX

ag4qx AT arrl DOT net