

OVER 42 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE BRANDON AREA  
BRANDON, FLORIDA, USA

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### In This Issue:

*New Member News, p. 1*

*A Word About Our Newsletter, p. 1*

*New York Diner, p. 2*

*Free Pie Night, p. 2*

*Correction!, p. 3*

*Mobile Radio Gear, p. 3*

*The Nostalgia Tour, p. 4 & 5*

*Telegraphers Glass Arm, p. 5*

*Emergency Traffic by Satellite, p. 6*

*ARES RACES News, p. 7*

*Solar Weather Update, p. 7*

*Calendar, p. 8*

*Last Page & Acknowledgments, p. 9*

### **Society Officers:**

*President: Scott Irwin*

*Vice President: Ron Perrett*

*Treasurer: Jim Moorehead*

*Secretary: Jeff Dick*

*Repeater Trustee: Tony Stone*

*brandonhamradio.org*

*<http://fb.me/brandonhamradio>*

*<http://www.twitter.com/>*

## New Member News

### Welcome Richard Sorensen KB3TLP



A New Member Certificate was presented by our President, Scott Irwin to Richard Sorensen at our August monthly BARS meeting.

**Welcome Richard!**

**Thank you for your interest in our Society!**

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### A Word About Our Newsletter

The Antenna contains numerous URL links in blue underlined font. Readers can hover over these links and click on them to go to the webpage indicated by the link. With some computers it is necessary to first click on the link (then release), then press and hold the CTRL key, then move the mouse slightly keeping the cursor over the link, and then, click the mouse to open the web page. Try it:

<http://www.brandonhamradio.org/>



## **BARS Happenings**

### **Tuesday Mornings at the New York Diner**



Thanks to Jeff Dick for this photo. A great bunch!

Come join us on **Tuesdays at 8:30 am** at the **New York Diner** located at **2126 Jelane Dr., Valrico!**

### **Wednesday Free Pie Night**



Thanks go to Nancy Lessard for this photo.

Join us on **Wednesdays at 7:30 pm** at **Village Inn** located at **1995 West Lumsden Rd., Brandon.**

## BARS Happenings - Continued

### A Correction is in Order!

In our last newsletter, the photo below was noted to show Angie Vazquez, Jim Smith, and Scott Irwin (far right)



In reality, that guy on the right is none other than **Ron Menard!**

**We regret this error! The editor offers his sincerest apology and is on his way to get new glasses.**

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### Mobile Radio Gear

Several of our members are considering installing a radio in their car. Lido is a unique company that supplies a wide array of installation hardware to fit just about any radio. Take a look at their website!

<https://www.lidomounts.com/hamradiomounts.html>



There are dozens of mobile antenna sources, but if you are just beginning to consider a mobile antenna, a good starting point would be Universal Radio. They sell a wide variety of mobile products as well. Check out their website below.

<https://www.universal-radio.com/catalog/hamanttm.html>

**Many of our long time members would also be a great resource in these areas as well!**



## The Nostalgia Tour – by Ken Watts

Janet (KB4PUM) and I (WA4NSV) visited W1AW on a road trip that she lovingly named “The Nostalgia Tour!” We got to Newington, Ct. on the morning of Tuesday, August 13 and checked into the offices of the ARRL. From there we went to the Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW. It’s a magnificent station



with 5 operating positions tucked away in a building measuring roughly 50' x 60'. After Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, the station manager, checked our licenses we were assigned to one of the operating positions. Originally I was placed on 20 meters with the beam headed due north to work some DX. Joe gave me the heading to point to Florida and not being too interested in DX, I moved the beam due south to 106 degrees. “CQ, CQ, CQ 20, this is Whiskey One Alpha Whiskey, QRZed?” After a short while, I got a call from KQ4KMS, a class at a middle school in Atlanta. It turns out that this is a new club station and this was their 1st contact! The teacher and club trustee is Charamie Dunlap, a 3rd generation ham whose personal call is her father’s, W5FRM. At first she didn’t recognize the phonetic call of the station but you can only imagine her excitement when she realized that they were working W1AW! I spoke with a couple of her students and they told me about their classes and I recalled my 1st time seeing a ham station... I was about their age. How exciting it was for me to have the opportunity to inspire new hams, much like I was back then. In an email later, Ms. Dunlap told me that they immediately went to the ARRL website after the QSO to see where we were operating. All the while, KB4PUM, The PUM, was taking the pictures especially for this newsletter.

I made several other contacts over the course of the hour or so that I was there. I even had a QSO with CO4YP in Cuba. While this would be the highlight for many hams, for me, it paled in comparison to being able to share in the excitement of the first QSO with school children in a classroom. Hopefully, Ms. Dunlap will continue to inspire and mentor many more hams, that they may share in and enjoy a hobby that we all cherish.

Ken, WA4NSV and Janet, KB4PUM (the PUM)



- Continued -



## More Photos from The Nostalgia Tour!



How would you like to have this radio room and antenna farm?!

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### The Cure of Writer's Cramp and the Arm Troubles of Telegraphers and Ball Players

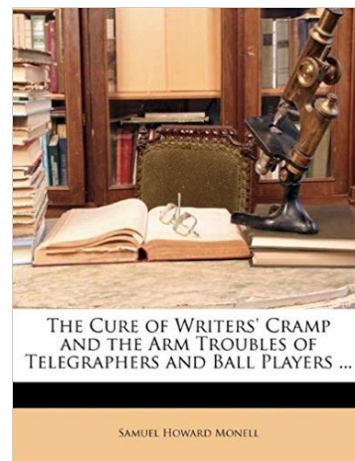
If you are looking for an interesting and fun book to read, you might check out the book with the name above. It was published in 1898 and written by Samuel Howard Monell, a prolific scientist and author of numerous books which give great insight to scientific thinking in the 1890s. The book details the medical aspects of the overuse syndrome (called "glass arm") of many telegraphers of that day who used straight keys. This eventually led to the development of the "bug" by Vibroplex in 1905. It's an interesting read! It's available in paperback from Amazon:

[https://www.amazon.com/Writers-Cramp-Troubles-Telegraphers-Players/dp/1146285159/ref=sr\\_1\\_6?keywords=The+cure+of+writer%27s+cramp+book&qid=1568652680&s=gateway&sr=8-6](https://www.amazon.com/Writers-Cramp-Troubles-Telegraphers-Players/dp/1146285159/ref=sr_1_6?keywords=The+cure+of+writer%27s+cramp+book&qid=1568652680&s=gateway&sr=8-6)

Or as a free e-book download from Google Books:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=kkmnEqjNRhAC&pg=PA32&dq=The+cure+of+writer%27s+cramp+and+arm+troubles+of+telegraphers+and+ball+player&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiFp6n2mNbkAhVsqlkKHbYRCskQ6AEwAHoECAEQAg#v=onepage&q=The%20cure%20of%20writer's%20cramp%20and%20arm%20troubles%20of%20telegraphers%20and%20ball%20player&f=false>

Credit goes to Mark Haskell for discovering this text. **Thanks Mark!**



# Emergency Traffic Relayed Over AO-92 Satellite

August 29, 2019

by JoAnne Maenpaa, AMSAT News Editor

As told by Clayton Coleman, W5PFG

As appeared in AMSAT.ORG

Published by AMSAT, Used with permission.



Terrain in Big Bend National Park & Ranger response. W5PFG photo.

On August 27, 2019, Clayton, W5PFG, and his father Jack, AC5DI, were traversing the Chihuahuan Desert in Big Bend National Park, Texas, USA, when their vehicle became stuck in mud from recent monsoon rains.

Being stuck up to the axles, they were unable to self-recover from the situation, requiring assistance from Park Rangers. August temperatures in this desert reach upwards of 110-115 degrees Fahrenheit. There is no mobile phone coverage outside park headquarters.

Clayton made contact via AMSAT satellite AO-92 with Kevin, KK4YEL, in Florida. During the satellite pass, stations stood by while Clayton relayed emergency traffic to Kevin. This information included details about the situation including precise latitude and longitude, the phone number for Big Bend National Park, vehicle description, and welfare of the party.

Other stations listening to the pass including Brian, KG5GJT, contacted the park headquarters. Within two hours, Park Rangers arrived on scene and recovered the stuck vehicle. No person was injured, and no equipment was damaged.

Clayton and Jack were traveling to DL88jx, a maidenhead grid square highly sought after by many ARRL VUCC members. Clayton had previously made two successful trips to DL88jx. Both Clayton and Jack are very grateful to Kevin, KK4YEL, the responsiveness of the amateur radio community, and to the Park Rangers and staff of Big Bend National Park.

Incident discussion via Twitter quickly provided recordings of the AO-92 satellite traffic:

Recording courtesy of KQ4MM

<https://twitter.com/KQ4MM/status/1166396579416354816>

Thanks go to Jim Smith for discovering this interesting article!



# ARES RACES News

We thank everyone who volunteered time and availability during the period that Hurricane Dorian threatened our state.

**Thank you very much!**

Hillsborough ARES RACES sponsors a **weekly UHF Net** on the W4BCI repeater (444.225 (+) PL 146.2) every Thursday Night at 7:30 pm. All amateur operators are welcome to check in to this net. **If you would like to become a Net Control Operator for this net, please contact Dana Perrin at danaperrin@aol.com. Training/Coaching is available.**

**On October 15th and November 19th (the third Tuesday of each month), we host a monthly ARES Simplex Net at 7 pm on 146.490 MHz, no PL tone needed.** The purpose of this net is to allow operators to practice relay techniques and to test their equipment should repeaters go down during a critical event. All amateur operators are welcome to check in.



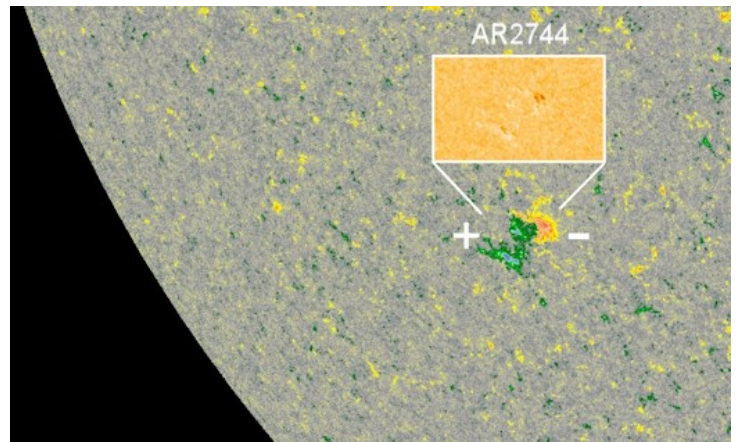
The main website for **Hillsborough ARES RACES** is:

<https://hillsboroughares.org/>

We encourage operators to check out this web site as it contains information on emergency preparation and go kit resources.

## Solar Weather Update - by Dana Perrin

Last month we highlighted a paper which appeared in the American Academy for the Advancement of Science Newsletter which provided a method to tell when the next solar cycle (cycle 25) would begin. This article indicated that: “The next solar cycle is predicted to take off within a year.” Last month, we also featured info on sunspot AR 2744 which was found to have a reversed polarity. This indicated that this particular sunspot was from solar cycle 25.



Recently, Dr. Tamitha Skov featured a You Tube Video entitled: “Space Weather Forecast July 18, 2019” in which she describes a solar storm from a sun spot from cycle 25.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzDm-h16L8c&feature=em-uploademail>

**Solar Cycle 25 is on the way!**

**Good News for Amateur Radio Operators!**

# Calendar

**Every Saturday Morning at 8 am: BARS Mentoring Breakfast at Steak 'n Shake**, 10131 Bloomingdale Ave., Riverview.

**Every Monday Evening at 7:30 pm: Dunkin Donuts**, 950 Lumsden Road, Brandon. Come check into the BARS 2 meter net with all your friends! They have ice cream too!

**Every Tuesday Morning at 8:30 am: BARS Mentoring Breakfast at the New York Diner**, 2126 Jelane Drive, Valrico. Come early to be sure to get a seat!

**Every Wednesday Evening at 7:30 pm: Free Pie Night at Village Inn**, 1995 West Lumsden Rd., Brandon. Free pie with an entrée!

**Every Thursday Morning at 10 am: BARS Mentoring Breakfast at Einstein Bagels**, 660 West Brandon Blvd., Brandon. Come early to get a seat!

**Some Thursday Afternoons: The Venerable Society of the Crusty Curmudgeons of Cards**, at Starbuck's, 6042 Winthrop Town Center Ave., Riverview. Check with Jeff Dick for exact times and dates.



**September 28th (Saturday): 2019 FALL PASCO COUNTY HAMFEST** – Gunn Highway Flea Market, Odesa, FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/event/2019-fall-pasco-county-hamfest/>

**October 1st (First Tuesday of each month): THE AMATEUR RADIO ELECTRONICS UNION (AReU) MONTHLY MEETING** - at 7 pm at Bell Shoals Baptist Church. Also an AReU 6 meter net is held every Wednesday at 7 pm on 50.2 MHz. For more info, contact: rhaynes5@tampabay.rr.com. See also: <http://www.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/areu>

**October 5th (Saturday): RADIO LICENSING EXAM SESSION** - 11 am at Arise Assembly of God Church, Brandon, FL. For more info: [http://www.arrl.org/exam\\_sessions/brandon-fl-33511-8](http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/brandon-fl-33511-8)

**October 11th (Friday): 54TH ANNUAL MELBOURNE HAMFEST DAY 1 and FL State ARRL Convention** - Melbourne Auditorium, Melbourne FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/event/54th-annual-melbourne-hamfest-day-one/>

**October 12th (Saturday): 54th ANNUAL MELBOURNE HAMFEST DAY 2 and FL State ARRL Convention** - Melbourne Auditorium, Melbourne FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/event/54th-annual-melbourne-hamfest-day-two/>

**October 19th (Saturday): WCF SECTION ARES MEETING** - Hillsborough County EOC, Tampa, FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/event/wcf-section-ares-meeting-fall-2019/>

**October 26th (Saturday): EAST PASCO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY - FALL TAILGATE** - Church Street Park, 37746 Church Ave., Dade City, FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/event/east-pasco-amateur-radio-society-fall-2019-tailgate/>

**November 9th (Saturday): SPARCFEST 2019** - Freedom Lake Park, Pinellas Park, FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/event/sparcfest-2019/>

**December 13th and 14th (Saturday and Sunday): 44th ANNUAL TAMPA BAY HAMFEST** – Strawberry Festival Grounds, Plant City, FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/event/44th-annual-tampa-bay-hamfest-day-one/>

**February 21st and 22nd (Friday and Saturday): 6th ANNUAL WCF TECHCON 2020** - Charlotte County EOC, Punta Gorda, FL. <http://arrlwcf.org/news/2019/07/22/wcf-section-press-release-19-23/>



## Our Next BARS Monthly Membership Meeting

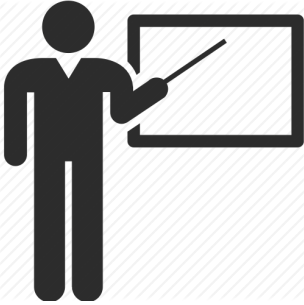
The next meeting on Thursday, September 19th will be at our regular meeting location: Arise Assembly of God Church, 401 Pauls Drive, Brandon, FL 33511.

Our President, Scott Irwin, will bang the gavel to start the meeting at 7:30 pm. After a brief Business Meeting,

**we will feature a presentation by Ron Perrett**

**regarding a topic of interest**

**JOIN US!**



**We thank the members and staff of Arise for their kindness in allowing BARS to use their facility.**



**ARISE**  
ASSEMBLY OF GOD AT BRANDON

### BARS General Info



**Mondays, 8 pm:** 2 meter Net on K4TN Repeater and Echolink node N4DLW/R (Brandon, FL)

**Tuesdays 7 pm:** 6 meter Roundtable on 50.200 USB

**Tuesdays, 8 pm:** 10 meter Roundtable on 28.365 USB

**Fridays 7 pm:** 80 meter Roundtable on 3.830 LSB

### Acknowledgements:

**We thank the following contributors to this edition of the Antenna Newsletter: Jeff Dick (for photos), Ken and Janet Watts (for the Nostalgia Tour article and photos), Jim Smith (for info regarding the Emergency Traffic Satellite article), Mark Haskell (for info regarding the Telegraphers' Glass Arm book), and Nancy Lessard (for photos and for proofreading this newsletter)!**

**We acknowledge the kindness of AMSAT and JoAnne Maenpaa for allowing permission to include the article (with photo) entitled: "Emergency Traffic Relayed Over AO-92 Satellite."**

We WELCOME articles and photos for inclusion in this newsletter. We also welcome any constructive feedback (positive and negative) from our readers. Please submit them to: [danaperrin@aol.com](mailto:danaperrin@aol.com)

Thanks and -73-