

# THE ANTENNA

## BRANDON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



Fall Edition

February 2025

### ARES/RACES Training

**Hillsborough ARES/RACES Training and Information Net each Thursday at 7:30 pm**

Hillsborough County ARES/RACES provides emergency communications in the Tampa Bay area during a critical event. Please join us for our weekly Hillsborough ARES/RACES Information and Training Net on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm on the N1CDO repeater in Tampa. Receive: 440.100 MHz, Transmit: 445.100 MHz, +5 MHz offset, PL tone 162.2. We feature info on ARES activities and upcoming EdVantage training classes. All check-ins are welcome!

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### Officers of the Society

*President Steve Maslin NS4M*

*Vice President Tony Stone  
(W4TAS)*

*Treasurer Karissa Hendershot  
(N3YDA)*

*Secretary Rick Farr (KK4CVD)*

*Board Members Past President  
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*Repeater Trustee Tony Stone  
(W4TAS)*

*Director Kelly Anderson (KE4GS)*

*Director Jim Stocks (KK4CWO)*

*Newsletter Jim Stocks  
(KK4CWO)*

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## Winter Field Day 2025

William Holloway AE4JB

Winter field day GOTA station still happened .. with bad weather we fired up some rf and lit a bon fire .. and put the station on air .. making a total of 17 QSO for a total of 68 points lots of fun as Chuck KQ4YDK got his first taste of HF operation .. Bill KQ4VEE joined us and worked the old Kenwood hybrid for a time .. as Chuck and my wife Sarah Holloway really added up the count chasing on 20 meters .. I say back and smiled as the Butternut hf6v did an awesome job from the Icom 746 ... Making what was going to be a cancellation of winter field day for us I made a great day of the GOTA station..

William Holloway AE4JB..

Picture: Will ,Bill in the center and Chuck to our left ...



William Holloway

Announcement Starting on April 3, 2025

The BARS QRS CW net

Time 7 pm EST

Frequency 28.120

Alt frequency 3.525

Speeds 5wpm - 15 wpm

Net control Will AE4JB

Seeking volunteers to also be NCS can email me

AE4JB@outlook.com



## Florida area HamFest

Jim StocksKK4CWO

Tampa HamFest at the Strawberry Festival fairgrounds in Plant City FL

The annual Tampa Hamfest was held on 13-14 December 2024 in Plant City at the fairgrounds. BARS members worked in supporting this event by selling tickets, managing the tailgate area, running the door prize table and checking in visitors.

Fred Hendershot once again was our coordinator for this event. Vendor turnout appeared a bit light in the main hall as the trend has been since COVID and the tailgate area had a number of open spots. Gear selection was fairly good. BARS members also had a table inside the main hall with equipment for sell.





## 2025 Orlando Hamcation

### Jim Stocks KK4CWO

On Saturday 8 Feb I attended the annual Orlando Hamcation at the fairgrounds. Due to bad traffic on I-4 I did some re-directing on side highways up through Polk City into Lake County and after 2 hours and 20 minutes I arrived in Orlando. I came mainly to pick up some new coax cables which I did, looked around saw no BARS members, grabbed some lunch and returned home. I picked up 100 feet of RG8X for my HF antenna and 50 feet of DBFlex 400 for my new Comet GP-1 VHF/UHF antenna.





# Orlando Hamcation

Some interesting vehicles to see were 2 different ARES/ RACES club trailers, it was interesting to see a complete communications center in a 12 foot trailer. I also saw a SUV with more antennas that Dave Welty's N4DLW's car. I roamed around the swap meet a bit but with the warm weather I decided to call it a day and departed at 12:40pm.





## BARS Volunteer Team:

We've had a BARS "Ship Crew" team in the past – great service accomplishments!

The American Victory continues to solicit volunteers in all areas. Help—Help !

.AND. Be part of W4AVM/KKUI also...Contact:

Lindsay Ryan -- Director of Guest Experience and Public Outreach

emailto:lindsay@americanvictory.org

Ship: (813) 228-8766

Personal Cell: (304) 573-7980



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WWII SHIP MUSEUM

The SS American Victory served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam and still serves today through the training of active duty and reserve military, law enforcement, fire fighters, first responders, working dogs, and more. As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, the American Victory Ship and Museum is open daily for tours! Our proud volunteers restore the ship, prepare new exhibits for daily tours, offer educational programs to youth of all ages, including U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, and provide critical training platforms. The SS American Victory is one of only four operational World War II merchant vessels in the U.S., and Tampa's only non-profit, national historical landmark dedicated to community service.

There's something for everyone here aboard our historic WWII ship - from deck hands, painters, and engineers, to tour guides, watch standers, and more!



Join our crew! Email  
[info@americanvictory.org](mailto:info@americanvictory.org)  
or stop by for more  
information!

705 Channelside Drive Tampa, FL 33602



Scan the QR code to  
learn more



## BARS VE Testing

Nov 2, 2024

Ham license exam testing rare event

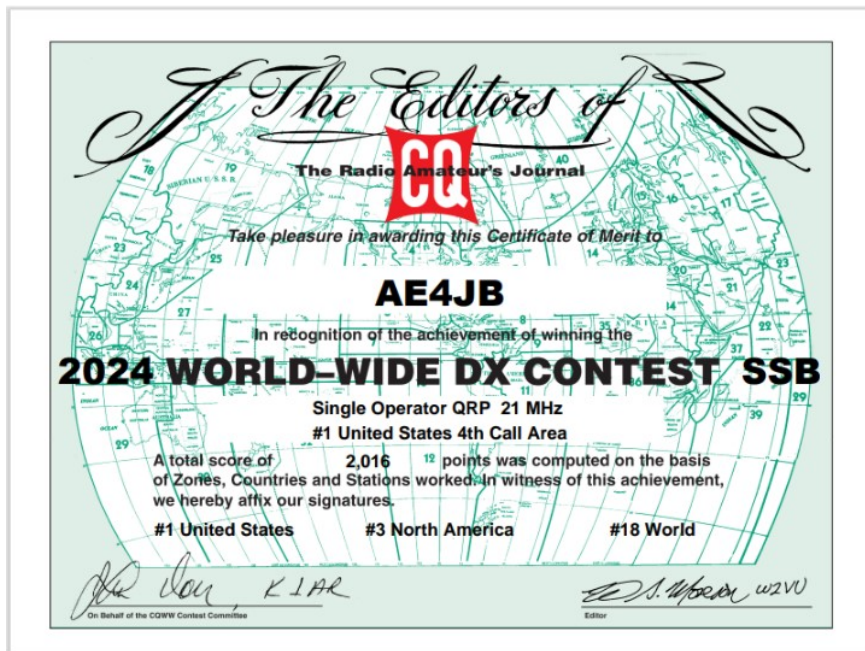
Congratulations to Zack Curington (now known as KZ4MZ) for passing all three amateur radio license examinations (Technician, General, and Extra) at the November 2, 2024 BARS testing session. Volunteer examiners John Turell (W1JVT), Mike Worden (KF4CIG), Al Wiledon (KN4GTZ) and Bill Johnson (N4NOA) are shown with Zack.

Karen E Jacobi



## BARS Net Activity

We had club member Will AE4JB placing 1st in the 2024 World Wide DX contest SSB QRP on 15 meters, only 1st USA 4th call area 3rd north America and 18 the world. Congratulations!



## Announcements

William Holloway

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During December 2024 and January 2025 BARS held a dinner meeting at the Golden Corral restaurant in Brandon. All BARS members were welcome to come out and enjoy some great food.





## BARS Social Events

### Thursday Bagels

Come ONE, Come ALL!

We have reactivated the BARS THURSDAY MORNING BAGELS event on Thursdays at 9:00 am! We're meeting at the same location as in the past:

Einstein Brothers Bagels, 660 W. Brandon Blvd

(NE Corner of Kings and 60)

JOIN US!



BARS members also get together each Saturday at 8am at the Recipe Box on Bloomingdale Rd in Brandon.

## President's Desk—The final word

Hello BARS Members!

I hope everyone had a fantastic holiday season. As a follow up to the last newsletter, we are still waiting for word about our repeater relocation. We have even contacted the FCC to try to get approval from them directly in some way, or to have them put us in touch with someone at FASMA that will actually respond. It is disappointing when a service started by Amateurs for Amateurs is acting in this manner, but we are trying to work some magic, so stay tuned!

As we start 2025, I want to remind everyone how important you are to this organization. Whether it's by volunteering for a role within the organization, attending meetings, volunteering at events, attending events, coordinating events, or just talking us up in conversation with others in-person or on-the-air, you are important to the success of this organization.

As I've said from the beginning of my tenure, this is not my organization just because I am the President, this is YOUR organization. You are helping to get our name out there, and based on the growth in the past few years, we are doing a great job at it. There's always more work to do, but please do keep up the pace!

73,

Steve, NS4M