

# The MODULATOR



*The NEWS and VIEWS of*  
**The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 061183,  
Fort Myers, Fl. 33906  
Visit our website [WWW.FMARC.NET](http://WWW.FMARC.NET)

**The FMARC meets every last Tuesday night 7:15 PM**

## *The President's Message*

Well we lost another piece of the clubs foundation with the passing of KQ4TR, Colleen Sammons. This Modulator is too small to tell of all Colleen has done for this club, Lee Memorial Shrine, her church, voting, cooking for many events. She will be fondly remembered by many many people. please keep her and GE in your thoughts and prayers!!

I would also like to thank the estate and family of Dave Quick KD4IVB for the donation of his complete radio equipment to the club.

**NOMINATIONS NEEDED:** At the August meeting we need to elect a new treasurer to finish the term of KQ4TR. If you want to nominate someone, with there permission please come to the meeting. Last Tues of August. Also GE will be retiring after this year. We will never replace them but we need to elect a replacement.

Stay safe this hurricane season.

73  
Joseph Ryan  
N3NAI

## F.M.A.R.C. INFORMATION:

The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc., is a non-profit corporation of both Federal Communication Commission and internationally licensed radio operators who volunteer themselves and their communications equipment in support of emergency and community services

PRESIDENT,	JOE RYAN
(239) 458-9721	N3NAI
VICE PRESIDENT,	MIKE MEEHAN
(239) 283-4026	KI4PTZ
SECRETARY,	G. E. SAMMONS
(239) 936-1431	WA4DQE
TREASURER,	open
(239)	
DIRECTOR,	LEN FOSTER
(239) 989-6186	VA3LGF
DIRECTOR,	DON MARZONIE
(239) 542-7274	KF4PHB

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Joe Ryan, N3NAI,	Presiding President
Mike Meehan, KI4PTZ,	Vice President
G. E. Sammons, WA4DQE,	Secretary
open	Treasurer
Len Foster, VA3LGF,	Director
Don Marzonie, KF4PHB,	Director

### COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS:

Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ,	Education
John Sholtis, KI4JFO,	Program
John Anderson, KE0TG,	Membership
Edward Radke, K9GTZ,	Greeter
Colleen Sammons, KQ4TR,	Social Activity
Jim Niccum, AF4YH,	Public Relations
Joe Ryan, N3NAI,	Scheduled Contests
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ,	Annual Hamfest
Don Marzonie, KF4PHB,	Property Control
Bill Pavela, KD4VDS,	Interference
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ,	W4LX Trustee
Mike Branda, K4HN,	VE Coordinator
David Penezic, WA4GUK,	A.L.E.R.T.
Joyce Botchford, KJ4BEI,	Mail Manager
Mike Meehan, KI4PZT,	Webmaster
Rich Greenberg, N6LRT	The Modulator
"Butch" Brown, KE4CB,	The Swap Shop

The club's web site can be found at:

<http://www.fmarc.net>

A list of local repeaters can be found at:

[http://www.fmarc.net/local\\_repeater.htm](http://www.fmarc.net/local_repeater.htm)

## A.L.E.R.T.

The All Lee Emergency Response Team (A.L.E.R.T.) is looking for volunteer licensed amateur operators. We need volunteers to man the shelters, hospitals, fire and police departments and other critical facilities during and after severe storms. If you would like to provide a much needed service to your community, Call Dave Penezic, WA4GUK, R.A.C.E.S. Officer at: Phone: (239) 368-2552 Email: [wa4guk@arrl.net](mailto:wa4guk@arrl.net)

### REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Araba Shrine on Hanson Street in Fort Myers at **7:30 PM**. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss plans and issues for the club. Members are encouraged to attend.

**REGULAR CLUB MEETING & PROGRAM:** is the "last" Tuesday of each month. Membership, friends and interested persons meet at the Riverside Community Center (3061 E Riverside Dr Fort Myers, FL 33916 239-461-3788) at **7:15 PM** for reports from all Committee Chair Persons, announcements of present and future activity, old business issues, any new business for the Club and a program and/or speaker for the meeting.

**THE GULF COAST AREA REPEATER CLUB membership** also meets at the Riverside Community Center (3061 E Riverside Dr Fort Myers, FL 33916 239-461-3788). The club's board of directors meet on the FIRST Thursday of "odd" months at **7:30 PM** for conducting business and discussing issues for the club. The regular meeting of the membership and friends is on the FIRST Thursday of "even" months at **7:30 PM**.

**The SWAP SHOP gathering of Hams** and friends is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & last Saturdays at **noon** at the Club House area in Waterway Park Estates at 5820 Poetry Lane in North Fort Myers. Sell, Swap and Bargain.

**VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS** conduct testing for Amateur Radio FCC License application qualifications on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at **6:30 PM** at the Emergency Operations Center on Ortiz Avenue.

**The Modulator** is a organization publication for the purpose of informing members of F.M.A.R.C. of educational and training opportunities, club events, relevant news articles and a monthly calendar of daily activities, meetings and dates. All inquiries can be made to F.M.A.R.C., Inc. at P.O. Box 061183, Fort Myers, FL 33906

## THE MODULATOR STAFF

It was determined at the March Board of Directors meeting that the revised Staff for the FMARC monthly newsletter, "THE MODULATOR", is now complete.

Editor & Publisher: Rich Greenberg, N6LRT. (239) 543 1353, 1705 Coral Way, N. Fort Myers, FL, 33917, e-mail: **modulator@richgr.users.panix.com**.

Editor Emeritus: Earl Spencer, Esq. K4FQU. Advisor & Consultant.

Reporter: Len Foster, VA3LGF, 2221 NE 4th Place, Cape Coral, FL 33909. (239) 989 6186, e-mail: **lfos42@hotmail.com**

Reporter: Darrell Phillips, N4OKS, 1719 NW 21st Street, Cape Coral, FL, 33993. (239) 282 1526, e-mail: **N4OKS@arrl.net**, FAX: (239) 282 1536.

Also, it was reconfirmed that the deadline for news and articles is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to the Reporters.

**Modulator Submissions** of articles and ads should be sent as early as possible by email to **modulator@richgr.users.panix.com**.

**IMPORTANT:** To avoid my spam trap, the subject **MUST** start with [**Modulator**] including the square brackets or it may be missed. Plain text is preferred and please DON'T send all upper case. Call me at 239 543 1353 if you have any questions or problems submitting an item. Ads are free to members and are accepted on a space available basis and may be edited for clarity or space.

Every member of F.M.A.R.C., not just the reporters, are invited to submit articles for the Modulator.

## Minutes for July 2008 general membership meeting:

Call to order 7:15 Small summer meeting No SK or new illness reported. Sick call Blaine & Esteva Caudill, and Colleen Sammons. Back are John KI4JFO and Rich N6LRT.

New Tech session has started and progressing. Hamfest is in planning new flyer's ordered. Larry is going to first Hamfest in Aug. John KI4JFO thanked Mike KI4PTZ, Darrell N4oks And Norma for helping him with programs while he recovered from knee surgery and fortunately he did not have internal surgery. Rick Schneider KR4PI had to reschedule hopefully for Aug.

Rich thanked Darrell and Len for the modulator while he recovered from his heart attack. He is doing OK and will have another surgery in Sept But he will be doing the modulator.

Dave WA4GUK is looking for ALERT members both ARES and RACES. We are in hurricane season now. Repeaters are scheduled for repair stay tuned. The EOC is planing a new web page and will put a link To FMARC.net and Mike will see if we can give them a page like the swftn.net.

Joe N3NAI gave the field day report. Norma KI4JFN Did the 50/50 \$37 \$19 to club

We discussed GE and Colleen about their illness and Their contributions to the club the hobby and the community.

Mike gave a presentation on WWV and its various forms and history

Adjourned at 8:20 For refreshments.

Submitted by N3NAI for sec.

## August Board meeting minutes

Began at 7:25 With N3NAI, KI4PTZ, WA4GQE, VA4LGF, absent KF4PHB attended by KI4GED, N6LRT, W4LWZ, N4OKS, KI4ZXL, KI4MGE, KI4MGF and granddaughter. Treasures report filed for audit, \$4k cd redeemed need 5k to roll over monthly. Joe N3NAI is now a signature for checking account. We need to elect a new treasurer at the next meeting to fill remainder of Colleens term. GE also said he will not be running for office in 2009. Len brought up he would like to see if we could plan some direction for the club, to get new members to offer more events and to try to get some

publicity for the club and the hobby. Chuck suggested a veterans day special event, a club he belonged to started one it took off slowly and became popular. Will ask Don when he returns home to see about a setup at the veterans memorial on the parkway. A discussion on the finances of the modulator postage and dues. It cost almost the dues just to send the modulator out each month would look into a way to deliver it electronically and only mail to those who do not have computer access. No decision made. We spoke about the contributions of Colleen and how she will be missed. Work progressing on update the website and Larry delivered first of the Hamfest flyer's on the east coast. Adjourned at 830

Submitted by N3NAI

### **AUGUST PROGRAM:**

The guest speaker at the August 26 FMARC meeting will be Captain Rich Schnieders, Commander, Operational Support Group Lee County Sheriffs Office. Captain Schnieders amateur call sign is KR4PI. Captain Schnieders will talk about the Sheriffs roll in emergency communications and how radio amateurs fit into the scheme of things. Please plan to attend and bring a friend. As usual, coffee and donuts will be served.

John Sholtis, KI4JFO Program Chairman

### **Great websites**

Have you ever had a conversation with someone who tells you about "this great website" he found but just cannot remember the name of it? Well, we would like to help solve that dilemma. We are requesting your favorite and frequently visited websites pertaining to Amateur Radio to share with fellow Hams particularly new hams and amateurs new to the club. Your contribution will be published in a future Modulator and maybe included in a welcome packet for new club members. Please submit your websites to Len Foster, VA3LGF at lfos42@hotmail.com.

FOR SALE: 28 Foot ROHN 25 TOWER with tilt over winch and Ham 2 rotor, plus a Hygain TH7DX Antenna. Package \$400.00 Call Larry Zimmer W4LWZ (239) 282 1526

## **Field Day Report - 2008**

Call Used: W4LX GOTA Station Call: (none)  
ARRL/RAC Section: SFL Class: 5A Participants:  
30 Club/Group Name: Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club FMARC.

Power Source(s): Generator. Power Multiplier: 2X

### **Bonus Points:**

100% Emergency power 500

Media Publicity 100

Set-up in Public Place 100

Information Booth 100

W1AW Field Day Message 100

Site Visit by invited served agency official 100

Submitted via the Web 50

Total Bonus Points 1,050

### **Score Summary:**

CW Digital Phone Total

Total QSOs 559 109 330

Total Points 1118 218 330 1666

Claimed Score = 3,332.

### **Submitted by:**

Joseph A Ryan Jr, N3NAI

407 se 19th ter cape coral fl 33990

E-mail: N3NAI@hotmail.com

Comments: Had participation of the Lee county sheriffs office this year. They used their communication command unit diesel generator. Unfortunately several club members were ill this year and the Friday before FD we lost a long time member K4FQU. We managed to successfully contact most of the states and Canada and several DX.

### **Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:**

CW Digital Phone

QSOs Pwr(W) QSOs Pwr(W) QSOs Pwr(W)

160m

80m 4 100 9 100

40m 219 100 103 100

20m 131 100 109 30 110 100

15m 122 100 105 100

10m 83 100

6m 3 50

2m, 1¼m & ¾m; not used.

Other

Satellite

GOTA

TOTAL 559 109 330

## **THIS IS THE STORM SEASON**

For all who are members of the All Lee Emergency Response Team, a reminder to put everything in readiness in lieu of "the call" to set up a station at an appointed location. Do this now and avoid a last minute rush to get equipment ready and functioning. For more information, give Dave Penezic WA4GUK, the RACES Officer a call at (239) 368 2552; e-mail: WA4GUK@arrl.net.

## **The Future of FMARC**

At the last Board of Director's meeting, a lively discussion ensued after Board member Len Foster VA3LGF posed a series of questions to the Board. The discussion centered on how to plan for the future of FMARC so the club will be viable, active and beneficial to all members. These matters are of interest to all members and your input is needed as the Board explores a variety of options and plans for the future. At the next membership meeting you will have a chance to contribute your thoughts and ideas. The following questions will be printed out and you can write in your suggestions.

1. How do you envision the future of FMARC?
2. What do you suggest we can do to ensure survival of the club?
3. What should be our short term goals?
4. What should be our long term goals?

So start thinking about these very important issues and come prepared to contribute your answers. Your input is needed and greatly appreciated.

Susan Sherman, KI4ZXL

## **LET'S GIVE HIM A BIG HAND**

Our Vice President "Mike" Meehan KI4PTZ gave us a very interesting last-minute arranged program for our July meeting on the 29th. Capt. Schnieders of the Lee County Sheriff's Department had a last minute duty call and could not be present his program. So, we learned about amazing broadcasts of frequency and time information from Ft. Collins, CO, 24 hours a day every day at 5, 10, 15 MHz at 10 KW and 2.5 & 20 MHz at 2.5 KW. The history of this accurate measurement of the frequency of the cesium clock resonance, the NBS

l, dates back to 1952. This was an amazing exposure of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to all who attended this meeting. While "Mike" did an outstanding job in gathering the many slides on the large screen, it should also be noted that this was the first program performed with the Club's new projector. We all look forward to many programs that best display on screen slides and allow interesting videos.

## **WHAT'S YOUR PROGRAM INTEREST ?**

We need "feedback" and "your ideas". Our program chairman, John Sholtis KI4JFO has requested your response in behalf of "anything" you might feel interesting or important for a monthly program to the membership on the last Tuesday of the month at Riverside Community Center. You might be surprised that what you like is the same as others are interested in, also. So, don't be "bashful" and jot down a few thoughts for a possible program.

## **WHAT IS YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?**

This is important to know. There has been a bit of conversation concerning an electronic Modulator each month, in lieu of what you receive now in printed form. It is an idea that may not be reasonable and then it may be something that needs to be explored for future information service to the membership.

Most of us have e-mail addresses and use this personal contact in a limited manner or in a more acceptable manner of receiving information from various sources. Many of us now have the ARRL address, like this reporter uses N4OKS@arrl.net. No, I have not done away with my internet assigned address but I have attached my address to my membership with the American Radio Relay League. I use my ARRL address in lieu of what I used to do with Gmail but it all comes out the same. Should you make the change it is easier to remember your address in line with your call sign.

Personally, I like the idea and have been using such for a year or more and intend to continue with this address arrangement. Maybe you might change accordingly and we all have ARRL fashioned e-mail addresses. It is a possibility; think about it. I know we don't really like changes but the world will not allow us to stand still and do nothing.

## **WE SHALL MISS COLLEEN KQ4TR**

Her life was above the ordinary. On Friday, August 8, 2008, our dear friend and fellow Ham departed to her spiritual life at Lee Memorial Hospital, Fort Myers, FL. She came to Florida in 1973 and later married Grove E. (Sam) Sammons in 1978. Colleen loved her music talent and recently purchased a new organ for her home and personal pleasure. But most of all, she was a multi talented leader in several Masonic auxiliary organizations; a detailed listing of her past official participation is in the Obituary section of August 14, 2008 publication of the Fort Myers News Press newspaper. Colleen is survived by her husband, G. E. "Sam" Sammons WA4DQE and was a Senior Member of the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, serving as a Secretary and a Treasurer several times. As an Extra Class licensed operator she was a familiar figure as a Volunteer Examiner at testing sessions for licensing new Hams and responsible for many years as an organizer and hostess of outdoor events for the membership.

One of her outstanding efforts for her Church, the Guiding Light Community Church, was being a Charter Member and arranging a worship meeting place at Noah Lodge, 41 Willis Road, in N. Fort Myers. The Reverend Dr. Benny E. Anthony will officiate at a Memorial Service for Colleen on Sunday, September 14, 2008 at 10:15 AM. If at all possible, you are encouraged to attend in honor of her life and friendship as a fraternal Ham. A covered dish dinner is arranged following the Memorial Service.

In lieu of flowers, it is suggested that you extend a monetary gift to the Guiding Light Community Church, P.O. Box 3949, N. Fort Myers, FL 33918 or to Shriner's Hospitals for Crippled & Burned Children, Araba Shrine, 2010 Hanson Street, Fort Myers 33901.

Those of us who had the honor and privilege to know Colleen Barbara Sammons, now a silent Key of the Amateur Radio Fraternity, will truly miss her warm, loving spirit and her sense of humor. She was truly a blessing to everyone who knew her.

## **HE HAS NOT BEEN FORGOTTEN**

Earl Spencer K4FQU

Several have asked about a Memorial Service for Earl and the best available information is that there will be no formal or planned service for our Editor Emeritus of the Modulator. We have learned that his family is striving to "work through" the absence of a husband and father. It is not an easy situation for Earl's surviving wife and sons. So, keep a kind thought in your uppermost thoughts in behalf of his many years of faithful service to F.M.A.R.C.

## **HAMFEST 2009 FLYERS AVAILABLE**

For a handful of brightly colored information flyers for the next Hamfest, give Larry Zimmer W4LWZ a call at (239) 282 1526. Anyone who can pass out these "cheerful" information pages or post them on bulletin boards and at places where they will be seen by the public, are encouraged to get a "bunch" and help our Club's annual money making effort, especially, if you are planning to attend other Hamfest with fellow Hams at these events. Keep a handful in your car or truck; you never know when they will come in handy somewhere. There will be flyers available at our monthly meetings on the last Tuesday of the month or anytime you call. Be a handy, helpful Ham; you'll be glad you made a difference in supporting your Club. Yeah, you will!

## **NOMINATIONS FOR TREASURER**

With the vacancy of the office of the Treasurer on Colleen's departure, it is necessary that the Club elect a Treasurer, according to the By Laws of our Corporation. So, "nominations are in order" and this can best be done with your written named nominee selection in an envelope for the Board of Directors, to any Officer of the Corporation. Names will be compiled and thereafter presented to the membership in a voting exercise arranged by the Board of Directors at a regular monthly meeting of the Club. Just be sure your selection is a person who has agreed to serve this vacancy for the remainder of this year. Nominations will be accepted from the floor in the month of October and election procedures are held in the month of November with installation of Officers at the annual Christmas dinner in December.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



1

Round Table 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
GCARC, 7:30 PM

2

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

3

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
Lee ALERT, 7:30 PM

4

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
C.C. Gabfest, 8:00 PM

5

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

6

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

7

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
Loggerhead, 7:30 PM

8

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
GCARC, 7:30

9

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

10

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
Lee ALERT, 7:30 PM

11

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
C.C. Gabfest, 8:00 AM

12

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

13

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

**FMARC Swap Shop**  
12:noon - Buy, Sell, Swap,  
Trade Bargains, at Water-  
way Estates Park, C.C.

14

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
Loggerhead, 7:30 PM

15

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
GCARC, 7:30 PM

16

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
**QUARTER CENTURY**  
Wireless Assatuation  
Lunch 11:30 AM, Buddy  
Fredays Country Buffet  
60 Pine Island Road &  
US 41, N. Fort Myers

17

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
Lee ALERT, 7:30 PM

18

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
C.C. Gabfest, 8:00 PM

19

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

20

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

**DEADLINE** of anything  
to Reporters for the  
Modulator newsletter.

21

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
Loggerhead, 7:30 PM

22

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
GCARC, 7:30 PM

23

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

24

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
Lee ALERT, 7:30 PM

25

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
C.C. Gabfest, 8:00 PM  
GCARC at Riverside Com-  
munity Center, 7:30 PM

26

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM

27

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
**FMARC Swap Shop**  
12:noon - Buy, Sell, Swap,  
Trade Bargains, at Water-  
way Estates Park, C.C.

28

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
Loggerhead, 7:30 PM

29

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
GCARC, 7:30 PM

30

Round Table, 7:30 AM  
SWFT Net, 10:00 AM  
**FMARC, 7:15 PM**  
monthly meeting at  
Riverside Community  
Center, Fort Myers, FL

**SEPTEMBER 2008**

**NETS OF RECORD Daily & Weekly**

Round Table (Club news) 147.345 MHz. Daily, 7:30 AM-4  
S.W. Florida Traffic Net, 147.345 & 145.170, Mon-Sat, 10:00 AM  
Gulf Coast Area Repeater Club, 147.345, Mon., 7:30 PM  
All Lee Emergency Response Team, 146.880, Wed. 7:30 PM  
Loggerhead, 146.790 MHz, Sunday, 7:30 PM  
Cape Coral Gabfest, 146.490 MHz, Thursday, 8:00 PM



# • MODULATOR •

The Fort Myers Amateur  
RADIO CLUB, INC.  
P.O.Box 061183  
Ft. Myers, Fl. 33906

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
FORT MYERS, FL  
PERMIT NO:  
543

## FORT MYERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. Inc.

Membership Application Form Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- Full single membership ..... \$10 per year
- Family membership ..... \$13 per year
- Associate membership (Non-licensed only) .. \$ 8 per year
- Family membership (Non-licensed only) .... \$13 per year

New Members must complete this form and mail together with your check or submit it at a meeting.

Current members only need to complete this form if your address or other information has changed.

New Members: Please do not submit your dues without this form. Make checks payable to FMARC.

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check  Cash  New  Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name (Opt) \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL member (Y) (N) License N T G A E (circle one)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address \_\_\_\_\_

Months Gone From \_\_\_\_\_ Until \_\_\_\_\_

Check which of the following committees you would like to work on:

Education  Program  Membership  Public Relations  Hamfest  Social  VE Testing

Interference  Newsletter  Nomination  Field Day  Social Events

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring this form to a meeting or mail to: P.O. Box 061183 Fort Myers, Fl 33906