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The NEWS and VIEWS of
The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 061183
Fort Myers, FL 33906

Founded 1957
Visit our web site at WWW.FMARC.NET

The FMARC meets the last Tuesday of every month at 7:15pm

The President's Message

Well this month's message is going to be a little more personal. Working moon bounce is quite a bit more difficult than most other operating activities in ham radio. It takes much more skill and equipment and frankly a lot of luck to have a successful moon bounce operation.

Thirty years ago on Oct 19, 1981 a few hams that lived in NH made a moonbounce expedition to RI. This is one of the rarest states to contact for WAS on 2 meter moonbounce (or EME). Since I am from RI, I arranged to use my mother's house for the moon bounce operation.

I recently came across the write-ups that were done at the time. They were a little nostalgic and I thought that they were interesting enough to read, that I am publishing them in the modulator for you to enjoy. This month is Joe Reisert's (W1JR) technical documentation of the event, and next month I will publish my mother's impression of the event.

73, Paul W1RP

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President..... Paul Ramsden (W1RP)
(239) 549-5330
Vice President. Russ Moorman (WX4L)
(239) 281-6387
Secretary. Brittany McDonnell (KJ4OYP)
(239) 878-3139
Treasurer. Don Riegels (KK4BQN)
(239) 489-0247
Director. Laing Batchler (NT4TS)
(239) 214-0005
Director. Larry Zimmer (W4LWZ)
(239) 282-1526
Former President. Joe Ryan (N3NAI)
(239) 458-9721

COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS:

Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ. ALERT - Lee Cnty EC
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ. Education
Edward Radke, K9GZT..... Greeter
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ. Hamfest
Tim Bennett, KJ4MUY. The Modulator
Stella Gurka, WB2FAU..... Net Manager
Joe Ryan, N3NAI..... Property Control
Jim Niccum, AF4YH. Public Relations
Mike Meehan, KI4PTZ. Repeaters
Joe Ryan, N3NAI..... Scheduled Contests
Open..... Social Activity
Stella Gurka, WB2FAU..... Special Events
Charles Istenes, KI4GED..... The Swap Shop
Larry Stiles, WF4LS. VE Coordinator
Larry Zimmer, W4LWZ. W4LX Trustee
Mike Meehan, KI4PTZ. Webmaster

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_repeaters.htm

A.L.E.R.T.

The All Lee Emergency Response Team (A.L.E.R.T.) is looking for volunteer licensed ham radio operators. We need volunteers to man the shelters, hospitals, fire and police departments, and other critical facilities both during and after severe storms. If you would like to provide a much needed service to your community, contact Larry Zimmer (W4LWZ), Lee County Emergency Coordinator, at: Phone: (239) 282-1526 Email: w4lwz@arrl.net

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

REGULAR CLUB MEETING & PROGRAM: is the "last" Tuesday of each month. Members, 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 chairpersons, announcements of present and future activity, old business issues, any new business for the club, and a program and/or speaker for the meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING is the **2nd Tuesday** of each month at the **Riverside Community Center** (3601 E. Riverside Dr. Ft Myers FL.) at **7:00 PM**. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss plans and issues for the club. Members are encouraged to attend.

THE FORT MYERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Weekly Meetings On-the-Air:

Our radio club meets weekly on Monday nights at 7:30pm on the 145.170 repeater with a PL tone of 136.5 Hz. which is linked to the 147.345 repeater. This net is to keep members of our club updated on current issues, events, and information as they happen. There is a trader net that will follow where you can buy, sell, trade or request any equipment or amateur radio related items.

The SWAP SHOP gathering of Hams and friends is on the **2nd & last Saturdays at noon** at the clubhouse in Waterway Park 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 **2nd Thursday at 6:30 PM** at the Emergency Operations Center on Ortiz Avenue.

THE MODULATOR

The Modulator is an organizational 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

Editor and Publisher: Tim Bennett (KJ4MUY)
(239) 691-0682. 3921 SE 18th Place, Cape Coral, FL 33904-5010 E-Mail: TBennettcc@hotmail.com

Submissions of articles and ads for the Modulator should be sent as early as possible by email to
Tim: Tbennettcc@hotmail.com or
Brittany: KJ4OYP@hotmail.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 uppercase. Call me at (239) 691-0682 if you have any questions or problems submitting an item. Ads are free to members, are accepted on a space-available basis, and may be edited for clarity or space.

Every member of F.M.A.R.C. is invited to submit articles for the Modulator.

FMARC "LUNCH BUNCH"

WE HAVE RETURNED WITH A NEW LOCATION! COME AND JOIN US!

Anthony's on the Boulevard
1303 Del Prado Blvd, Cape Coral, FL
Every Thursday, 12:00pm

<http://anthonysontheblvd.com/wordpress/>

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with fellow Hams, share a meal and camaraderie. Bring a guest! Bring a friend! Bring a radio! It's also a great way to introduce individuals to the hobby who may be interested in becoming a ham. See you there!

Questions? Contact Roger L. Diekema (KI4NQM), diekema4@hotmail.com or (239) 656-6709 (home), (239) 247-2725 (cell).

General Meeting Minutes for 08-30-11

Meeting called to order: 7:24pm

Prayer list / sick list / silent keys: Jimmy La Fountain's father passed away last Monday. WB4WMJ (works with Russ).

Treasurer's report: Current bank statement is available and the phone bill is paid for August.

Secretary's report: Christmas dinner locations needed. We're thinking of going back to The Clubhouse on Santa Barbra which is the location of last year. Brittany will contact them to get details if they can host our annual Christmas Dinner.

Old Business: Lunch Bunch was a discussion for last meeting. It has been voted upon and motion granted to start up the lunch bunch again at Anthony's on the Blvd located in Cape Coral. Please see note in Modulator regarding the Lunch Bunch.

New business: Lou (W4EYE) would like to hire someone to help him install a new cable and wench to his 30ft rohn tower. If you're available, please contact him. The QSL picture for Lighthouse and Lightship weekend has been picked out! It is a picture Brittany (KJ4OYP) took during early Sunday morning before we started operating. We are definitely doing this special event next year.

ALERT to join FMARC as a committee! There are two primary advantages one for both parties, the club will get the community service credentials they need to become 501(c)3 approved, and it gives ALERT the opportunity to solicit grants for equipment, radios and to further our emergency set up. When the new EOC plans were started, Larry was asked to provide a wish-list which he expected to lose half of. The EOC granted the entire wish list which included new radios, antennas, power supplies, TNC's, tuners ect. Larry wants to point out that it is not necessary to become a member of ALERT, but it would be a great benefit to you and the club to join. The only person who will have to be a member of FMARC and ALERT will be the EC (emergency coordinator). Mike (KI4PTZ) asked

if ALERT joining FMARC causes a problem with the county. Larry (W4LWZ) said that it does not have any effect on anything we do with the county, and they have no issues with it. Joe (N3NAI) asked if we work as county volunteers do we lose our liability insurance. Larry has spoken to our insurance company and no we do not lose anything. If we are liable for damages or injuries we are still covered under our current policies. Other questions were asked regarding equipment and finances. The equipment ALERT currently has is owned by the county, not ALERT. If at any time ALERT needs money for anything, it will be brought up to the board like any other financial situation and voted upon at the board meetings. Dale (WT4T) said that at home, his radio club merged with an ARES group, and after the merger they were often asked to attend more events than ever before. Laing (NT4TS) said the same thing. His home club merged together and it created more opportunities for the club to get out in the public and be known. After the questions and discussion, motion was made to have ALERT join FMARC, motion was seconded and approved. WELCOME ALERT MEMBERS!

Other business: Committee reports:

Larry (W4LWZ) for Alert: We are always accepting new members.

Larry (W4LWZ) for Education: Larry is currently between doing classes. He has just graduated a group from Ft Myers beach two months ago. We need 6-8 people in order for Larry to have a class. If anyone wants to do a class on Technician or General licenses please contact Larry.

Larry (W4LWZ) for Hamfest: Hamfest will be January 2012. We have a conflict right now with Tarqfest, and Arcadia Hamfest all being the same weekend as our hamfest. Larry will talk to the shrine about possible moving the date back to the 14th from the 21st or seeing if someone else will move their Hamfest.

Larry (W4LWZ) for W4LX Trustee: "It was still working last I checked! We used it at the lighthouse special event."

Tim (KJ4MUY) Modulator: If you have anything to add to the Modulator let him know.

Joe (N3NAI) Property Control: Come by the swap shop and take a look at what we have. Field Day

reports should be posted in December QST magazine.

Charles (KI4GED) Swap Shop: Only one swap shop this month Sept 10th, due to Lambiefest.

Mike (KI4PTZ) Website and repeaters: Website is fine, updated some things this evening. For repeaters, the 170 is operating, but not linked to 345. The 345 is finally fixed, but not back in location yet. Paul (W1RP) and Paul (KN2R) fixed it. The 225 repeater is fine, the 440 is half working due to low output and the 220 doesn't work at all.
Meeting ended: 8:40pm

Submitted by:
Brittany (KJ4OYP) Club Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes for: 9-13-11

Meeting called to order: 7:14pm

Attendance: Brittany's sister Rachael, KJ4OYP, W4LWZ, WX4L, KK4BQN, W1RP, NT4TS, KI4GED, KI4JFN, KI4JFO, WB2FAU, WG4K, N3NAI.

Prayer list / sick list / silent keys: Larry (W4LWZ) is in good shape, recovering well.

Secretary: QSL card design and count has been set up. I will contact Winslow Press to get them printed. We are also sending QSL cards to the 18 lighthouses we contacted, regardless of whether we've received a QSL card from them or not. We will also hand out one QSL card to each club member if they would like one.

Treasurer's report: Don (KK4BQN) emailed the monthly reports to the board members before the meeting and they were viewed.

Old Business: Paul (w1RP) brought the amplifier from GE 345 repeater for viewing incase no one had seen one before. He also went and got some new transistors for the amplifier. Paul believes the problem is in the chip. He found a company in VA who bought the original company and still supplies the same items, just a little modified. So the new chip is a different style, but the same chip. Dave (WG4K) gave Paul a preamp for the 450 repeater. Larry talked with Scott and Tarkfest is moving to January 14th, so we can continue to have January 21st, 2012.

New business: October 19th 1981, Paul (W1RP) did a EME expedition in New Hampshire. He is publishing letters in the next two modulators. Dave (WG4K) volunteered to help Stella (WB2FAU) write out the QSL cards from the Lighthouse Lightship weekend special event. The new 2012 Officers nominating committee will be made up of 3 people as usual, Larry (W4LWZ) will be chairmen and So far Laing will help. Paul will decide who the 3rd person is. Stella (WB2FAU) was presented by a supplier at her work for this Genbook android netbook. She would like to sell it to the club to be used as a raffle prize in our 2012 Hamfest. Motion set forth, seconded and approved. Brittany (KJ4OYP) will hang onto the netbook until Hamfest time. Dave (WG4K) would like us to consider raffling off another HT for Hamfest. He's looking at some new HT's Yaesu is coming out with. Some come with accessories and antennas, and some cover GMRS and FRS frequencies. The club purchased Stella's Netbook and Brittany took it home.

501(c)3: Larry (W4LWZ) received information he asked about from Leon (K9GCF) and he plans to go through the paperwork before the next board meeting so we can continue to work on the application.

Meeting adjourned: 8:13pm

Submitted by:
Brittany (KJ4OYP) Club Secretary

LUNCH BUNCH HAS RETURNED!

Roger's famous Lunch Bunch has returned at a new location. Starting October 6th at 12pm the Lunch Bunch will resume at Anthony's on the Boulevard in Cape Coral. The host has offered to take 10% off our tab every week we meet. Please take advantage of this to meet fellow club members, their spouses who you might not see at meetings, and to make new friends! If you have any questions please contact Roger (KI4NQM) at the information above in the Lunch Bunch section of this Modulator (Page 4). The address is 1303 Del Prado Blvd, Cape Coral.

CLUB VESTS:

Those of you who ordered vests with me during the summer can pick up your vests at the General Meeting Tuesday September 27th. Ginny (KA3PYO) has recovered from her shoulder surgery and was able to work on them this week. Please bring cash in small bills (less than \$20's, just incase we can't make change) or checks to pay for your vest.

Thank you!
Brittany (KJ4OYP)

The following is the article published by Joe Reisert, (W1JR) that Paul (W1RP) is publishing in this Modulator.

Joe Reisert, W1JR

19 Oct. 1981-(0066R)

THE 1981 144 MHz EME DXPEDITION TO RHODE ISLAND

Lots of planning and early survey trips really paid big dividends for our 1981 144 MHz EME (Earth Moon Earth) DXpedition to Rhode Island. During two nights, the W1JR team netted 25 two-way cw EME OSO's in less than 23 hours of operation. At least 4 stations who were OSO'd (W5LUU, K5UGM, N7NW and WA0LPK/KL7) completed "WAS" and several others moved to their 49th state. Only one station scheduled was not worked and this was due to uncooperative faraday rotation.

We chose this particular weekend because the moon was at perigee with high declination and available mostly during the nighttime. In addition we wanted to beat the onset of cold and unpredictable weather. We were blessed with good weather right between

two stormy days. One big unknown was the solar flux. The week preceding the trip saw record high solar flux and auroral conditions, a real negative for successful EME operation. Fortunately we were only partially affected by these conditions although they were evident in later schedules. We also chose split frequency operation with preassigned frequencies which saved the day since at times three locals were operating near our frequency and we had the usual jokers who kept trying to spoof us:

The antenna system was completely assembled, tested and debugged on-site the weekend before the trip. The array consisted of 8 home brew (WIJR designed) 8 element yagis each 12 feet long using 10 foot stacking. Gain was estimated to be 21 to 22 dBi. The main boom was 30 feet long and mounted only 12 feet off the ground on a Lunar Electronics freestanding tower. Azimuth was controlled by a Ham-M rotator and elevation was set with a boat winch with a compass type indicator. We boresited the antenna the previous weekend by observing the sun at local meridian crossing. This turned out to be a big asset since we did not have a visible moon at the beginning of operations.

The receiver consisted of a Dixel D-2501 GaAsFET preamplifier mounted at the antenna feed with a homebrew U310 and DBM-type converter located in the shack (which was a chicken coop over 50 years old with a 6 foot ceiling!) Two Kenwood TS-830S' were used as the IF at 28 MHz and the built-in noise blankers really helped reject local noise at the lower elevation angles. In addition, this allowed two operators to tune independently around the band and spot calling stations. A homebrew solid-state up-converter from 50 MHz provided the drive to a commercial KW amplifier which generated 650 to 700 watts of RF output in the shack.

Stations were worked in order as follows:
WA8ONQ, WB0TEM, WD0FOY, WA9KRT,
K1WHS, W7HAH, W5LUU, W4WD/7,

WA0LPK/KL7, N7NW, KI7D, N7CSF,
WA1JXN/7, K5UGM, WB6ESQ, WB5ERD,
K9XY, W0RT, KE5C, WD4IIS, W5HM, W7FU,
W7CI, WB7DTI and WA7BBM.

This trip would not have been so successful without the help of many individuals. These included (but are not limited to): Mrs. Ramsden in Warren, Rhode Island who not only provided the operating site but provided much hospitality, facilities, a telephone and many kilowatt hours of power....The operations and equipment team: K1KEC, W1JR, KIMNS, W1RP and W1UHE....Extra help in setup and breakdown: AD1C, WIFJH and son....HF liaison: AD1C and KIICH....and K4PKV, our schedule coordinator extraordinaire, who spent many hours on the telephone trying to match up all the various stations and their window problems with schedule times etc. Thank you one and all.

This month's Modulator is short due to time constraints and lack of material. If you have anything you would like to add to our monthly club newsletter please contact us! We have plenty of room to add pictures and stories and articles too! Send us your stuff!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>October 2011</h1>						1 SWFTN 10:00am
2 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9:00pm	3 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:30pm	4 SWFTN 10:00am	5 SWFTN 10:00am ALERT Net 7:30pm	6 SWFTN 10:00am Lunch Bunch 12pm (Anthony's on BLVD)	7 SWFTN 10:00am	8 SWFTN 10:00am Swap Shop 12:00pm (Waterway Park)
9 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9:00pm	10 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:30pm	11 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Board Meeting 7:00pm	12 SWFTN 10:00am ALERT Net 7:30pm	13 SWFTN 10:00am Lunch Bunch 12pm (Anthony's on BLVD)	14 SWFTN 10:00am	15 SWFTN 10:00am
16 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9:00pm	17 SWFTN 10:00am QCWA lunch 11:30am (at Mugs n' Jugs) FMARC Net 7:30pm	18 SWFTN 10:00am	19 SWFTN 10:00am ALERT 7:30pm (In-person mtg.)	20 SWFTN 10:00am Lunch Bunch 12pm (Anthony's on BLVD)	21 SWFTN 10:00am	22 SWFTN 10:00am
23 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9:00pm	24 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:30pm	25 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC General Meeting 7:15pm	26 SWFTN 10:00am ALERT Net 7:30pm	27 SWFTN 10:00am Lunch Bunch 12pm (Anthony's on BLVD)	28 SWFTN 10:00am	29 SWFTN 10:00am Swap Shop 12:00pm (Waterway Park)
30 Loggerhead Net 7:30pm Windmill Net 9:00pm	31 SWFTN 10:00am FMARC Net 7:30pm			Daily & Weekly Nets of Record Loggerhead Net - 146.790, Sunday 7:30pm Windmill Net - 28.475 USB, Sunday, 9:00pm Southwest Florida Traffic Net - 145.170 & 147.345, Mon-Sat 10:00am Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club Net - 145.170 & 147.345, Mon 7:30pm All Lee Emergency Response Team Net - 147.165, Wed 7:30pm Cape Coral Gabfest - 146.490 simplex, Thursday, 8:00pm		