

RADIOWAVES



MARCI Newsletter

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From The President of MARCI

It has been a particularly sad couple of weeks for me personally. A very good friend of mine passed away on Easter Sunday. Dave Henderson, NR1DX from Riverview was one of our guest presenters via ZOOM during the early months of the pandemic when we were not having live meetings due to health concerns. Dave gave a most interesting presentation on HF receiving antennas that run along the ground or BOGS as they are called. I have been working with his family helping with affairs to do with vehicles, a boat, trailer, and of course the Dave's ham gear, tower, and antennas. These things are never a happy time for anyone.

On a lighter note, MARCI continues to grow with our membership now at 110 members per the club secretary. Brian Biery, N4BB the MARCI club secretary will have a recap of the new members later in this issue of RADIOWAVES. Congrats new members!

As most of you know May is the month in each year that is so important to the Manatee Amateur Radio Club in that we elect our officers. We have not had a vice president for the club since the passing of George Hawrysko, K4AWA last year. In addition, another seat currently occupied by Brian Biery, N4BB who will not be returning as our secretary, will also be available.

We are approaching Hurricane Season which begins June 1st. It was discussed earlier in the year that it might be interesting if not prudent to again invite Bob Harrigan Chief Meteorologist for Channel 7 TV in Sarasota. to join us in a meeting at some point to talk about the upcoming season and review the past. Due to EXTREMELY high demand for his time, Bob is not able to attend a live meeting. However, I was able to arrange to set up a meeting via ZOOM that Ed Skalecki, NI4MX recorded and that we will provide at our June General Membership Meeting coming up on June 6th.

Ed Skalecki still would like to organize a group to participate in this year's Field Day exercise the weekend of June 24th and 25th. Depending on the level of interest and the number of participants will dictate the hours of operation and location.

If you have any interest, I encourage you to contact Ed directly at (ni4mx@verizon.net) and see what he has in mind. Field Day is an annual event, simply designed to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate radio gear both HF and VHF in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

MARCI does not have a General Membership Meeting in July as it assumed that folks will want a break from radio after the Field Day Weekend and since some are vacationing during the summer. But 'Save the Date' of July 15th as we will have a 'SOCIAL SATURDAY' at the home of Bob Borsari W4WRS on the afternoon of July 15th. Details will soon be announced and Phil Wilson N8IPS will be organizing the food for the event. Stay tuned for more info in upcoming communications such as during the MARCI Nets and RADIOWAVES.

I look forward to seeing you all at General Membership Meetings so gas up the Edsel and be sure to make it on Tuesday night May 2nd. Our guest presenter will be Rick Wheeler K4LX. And don't forget the "Too Good to Throw Away/SWAP Table" at the rear of the meeting room. If you have something too good to throw away, bring it along! I'll have my contributions to the table this month.

As usual I'll close this month again as I always do by just saying *PLEASE* 'tell someone you love them'. See you May 2nd. '73, Mike Ryan K4CVL

From the Editor

Ride Needed to Monthly MARCI Meeting

Barry Yoder, W8SJO, needs a ride to our monthly meeting this coming Tuesday evening. If you can help Barry, please contact him:

Barry Yoder
508 44th Ave E, Lot A16
Bradenton, FL 34203
Phone: 941-932-0088
Email: jaclanG27@aol.com

His address is about 1/2-mile SE of the Desoto Mall.

Member Updates

Our youngest MARCI member, Emily Olson, W4ERO, passed her General exam on April 15th. Congratulations Emily on earning a significant expansion of your operating privileges!

Please welcome the following individuals who were recently approved as new or returning members by the MARCI Board of Directors:

Delaney, Ed	KQ4GXP
Martinez, Carlos	KQ4GJK
Weissbach, Lyle	KQ4HDK

If you joined or rejoined in the last few months, upgraded your license, or changed your call sign, and you are not listed above or in a recent issue of Radiowaves, please let me know and I will be sure to add your name in the next issue.

Phil Wilson – N8IPS – Shack of the Month

Phil had a small fire in the corner of his radio room in May 2022. Be sure to read his story and lessons learned to see how he overcame this unfortunate situation. His story is inspirational and instructive.

Geoff Haines – N1GY – Our April Guest Speaker

Please be sure to see the article on Geoff's well received presentation on Anderson Powerpole[®] connectors.

MARCI Library is Being Discontinued

Please see the article starting on page 12 for more information.

MARCI Facebook Page

If you are a Facebook user, be sure to check out our MARCI Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/966175460080399>.

MARCI Polo Shirts and Patches

If you missed the opportunity to purchase one of the MARCI polo shirts and/or patches in January, you will be able to place your order(s) with Marsha Littlefield up until May 15th. Please see the article on page 5 for details.

“Swap & Drop” Table at Our Monthly Meeting

Remember to bring items that you are no longer using but may still be of use to other MARCI members, to the “Swap & Drop” table at the back of the meeting room. You may find something that you’d really like to have for use in your shack!

Ham Radio Lunch Bunch at Beef ‘O’ Brady’s – Wed. May 3rd at Noon – Ladies’ Day

Please note that you do NOT have to have a ham radio license to attend the lunch!

Attention Ladies! The first Wednesday of each month is “Ladies’ Day.” A special table is available for all the ladies attending the lunch. Ladies may come every week, of course!

Consider joining the great folks at the Ham Radio Lunch at Beef ‘O’ Brady’s every Wednesday at noon. The restaurant is located at 1795 Lakewood Ranch Blvd, Bradenton, FL, near the corner of Lakewood Ranch Blvd & SR 64 (Manatee Ave). It is in the Publix strip mall on the far south end of the mall. Here’s a link to the menu: <https://www.beefobradys.com/menus.aspx>.

Monthly MARCI Board of Directors Meetings

The MARCI Board of Directors meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are held via Zoom. ALL members are invited to join the meeting. The next meeting is on May 16th. The link for the Zoom meetings stays the same each month.

Use this link to join the Zoom meetings:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4340953241?pwd=Qm52YWJGaWF4U29SMGk3bWVzRk1Ddz09>

Until next month, continue to enjoy our fascinating hobby, and stay safe!

Brian Biery, N4BB, Radiowaves Editor

N4BB.brian@gmail.com

MARCI Polo Shirts and Patches

A few members are interested in purchasing polo shirts, embroidered with our MARCI logo, your first name and call sign. Orders are being taken now. **Please contact Marsha to order your shirt(s) by Monday, May 15th.** The following is included from a recent issue of Radiowaves:

The shirts are \$30.00 up to XLG; add \$2.00 for the 2X size. This includes your name, call sign and the logo *embroidered* directly on the shirt above the pocket. Shirts are available in RED, WHITE, and (dark) BLUE.



If you are interested in just the patch to sew onto an item or to add to your collection, they are \$18.00.

Contact Info:

Marsha Littlefield - (941) 224-0400

Email - Mympmarsha@Yahoo.Com

Ham Shack of the Month — Phil Wilson — N8IPS

This month we're featuring the newly rebuilt station of Phil Wilson, **N8IPS**.

Phil says, "Here is my shack. This was step 1 after the fire. A \$10 yard sale desk & new carpet. It has evolved through several versions since.

It will never be this clean again."



Here's the story.

QTH - FIRE

On May 25, 2022, I had a small fire in a corner of my radio room. Tupper Ware tubs full of extra "wall warts", chargers, vinyl insulated wires, and batteries were on fire. The actual fire damage was minimal and was put out quickly with a small dry chemical fire extinguisher.

NOTE: without this extinguisher we could have lost the house! I really figured I could fix this with a sheet of drywall and some paint. I felt \$2,000 would easily cover the damage, even with someone else doing the work. My deductible is \$2,500. So, I started cleaning up thinking I was \$500 ahead of the game.

What I learned...

There is no such thing as a small fire. Soot & smoke from plastics filled the house. After a week

of cleaning, I called the pros and went through my insurance. The estimate came in at \$30,000. Nearly all of this was cleaning and painting the ENTIRE house. New carpets in three rooms, new blinds (fabric blinds could not be cleaned).

Back to normal in 90 days. NOT! Having 2 hurricanes in 2 months put a real kink in things. They packed out our entire house and sent it to Ft. Myers for cleaning. The Florida “Hurricane-of-the-month Club” took out part of the storage building in Ft. Myers, but we were spared. Avoid fires during hurricane season. As of this writing in April 2023 we are at 11 months and close to done.

NEVER be without a fire extinguisher. You have about 2 minutes to get it controlled. After that it's the fire dept.

The radio gear.

The dry chemical fire extinguisher is very corrosive. Any steel exposed to the chemicals will rust. Within a week, all my tools were rusted, but not ruined. Now it's just a constant reminder of the fire when I pick up a tool. My radios got an alcohol rub down, inside and out. There was soot and dry chem throughout my electronics. Everything but one power supply was working after cleaning. I fixed the supply and thought I was done. However, damage can take a while to reveal itself. I now have a tuner that is acting up and it may need to be repaired/replaced. The insurance will allow me to use the gear and report any problems that they will address. Very fair, I thought.

I hope it never happens to you. But if it does, have a fire extinguisher handy and don't leave things powered on.

73- N8IPS – Phil

Phil's current shack:



Geoff Haines – N1GY – Our April Presenter

The guest speaker at our April general membership meeting was Geoff Haines, N1GY, one of our longest serving members. Geoff gave a very interesting presentation about Anderson Powerpole® connectors, including the various sizes, tools required, techniques, etc. After the presentation, those in attendance were given the chance to learn by creating some sample Powerpole connectors using materials provided by Geoff.

The following websites provide additional information on Anderson Powerpole® connectors:

http://www.westmountainradio.com/kb_view_topic.php?id=ST166

<https://powerwerx.com/help/powerpole-assembly-instructions>

<https://www.andersonpower.com/us/en/resources/PowerPoleResourcesPage.html>

Please visit Geoff's website at n1gy.com for a glimpse into Geoff's world of ham radio and model railroading!





QST MAY 23

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W G K R T R R T J P T D E T Q A T
T T G D X R R Q N F D Y D M W T M
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J C O N T R O L L E R L U E B I S
S W E E P S T A K E S O T L F D E
N M L Y E N L G R J M Q F C Y C T
C Z X X X T R A N S C E I V E R C
N E K W P E C Y K I Y H Y Y K L M
P N N N O C W W A C T A L F L U H
C T R T S A G F R D D N K R M H Z
K N A B U F K Y C S D M U I T C G
R C L M R R X N D X L L X H K K Q
B V O Z E U Y I X X E A E G X J Z
L T S D X S K R V S M F Z I C O H
G N Z K R E N N I G E B L R F K F

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EXPOSURE	MAXIMUM	TRANSCEIVER
FCC	MORSE	UPDATE

Items for Sale

Brian Biery – N4BB - 919-412-8264 / N4BB.brian@gmail.com

All items are “like new” having been used less than 10 hours.

<p>RigExpert AA-230 Zoom + Nanuk Case Bundle</p> <p>Current DX Engineering Price \$532</p> <p>Asking \$400</p>	 A handheld RigExpert AA-230 Zoom device with a color screen and keypad, next to its black Nanuk protective case which is open, showing a custom foam insert.
<p>Daiwa CN-901HP 1.8200 MHz Pro Xneedle SWR/PWR</p> <p>Current DX Engineering Price \$199.99</p> <p>Asking \$150</p>	 A black Daiwa CN-901HP SWR & Power Meter. It features a large analog meter with a green face and yellow needle, showing scales for FORWARD (W), REFLECTED (W), and SWR. The device has several control knobs and buttons on the right side.

Jack Ham – WG9X – WG9X@arrl.net and (941) 567-6716

Gould OS3600 Dual Trace 100 MHz Oscilloscope. Complete with Operating Manuals, Parts List and Schematics. Works fine Used very little. Great for bench service work. Will Sell for \$125.

Interstate Electronics Corp. (IEC) 20MHz Log Linear Sweep Generator Model F77. Complete with (2) Operating Manuals, Parts List and Schematics. Works fine. Instrument has very few hours on it. Nice for bench work. Will Sell for \$ 75.

Discone Antenna. Works well on 2m and 70 cm. Price: \$ 40.

Yaesu FT-101ZD 10-160 Meters HF Transceiver. SSB and CW modes. 180 Watt (Input Power. Hybrid-solid state design. Digital display. Serviced 3 years ago and was found to work fine. Original MSRP was \$895. Asking \$200.

For info on all the above items, please contact Jack at WG9X@arrl.net or call 941-567-6716.

Geoff Haines – N1GY – (941) 447-8579 (cell) or (941) 752-3696 (home)

- Offer to build: Custom extension cables for any remote-able radio such as the Yaesu FTM-300, 350, etc.
- Anderson Powerpole Power Distribution Blocks in 4+1, 6+1, and 8+1 sizes for \$20, \$30, and \$40 each respectively. Can custom build to suit.

MARCI Library Being Discontinued

The MARCI library has had over 45 amateur radio books and study aids available for short term loans. Since I have assumed control of our library, only 3 individuals have borrowed books, and that activity was in the September – December 2021 timeframe. Many of the books were published as far back as the 1990s and 2000s. Most of the books were published in the 2010s.

The most popular book had been the ARRL **Extra Class** License Manual (**thru 6/30/2024**) 12th Edition. That said, it was only checked out twice, the last time in December 2021. Nowadays, it seems most people are using online sources to study for the ham radio license exams.

Our ARRL **General Class** License Manual for Ham Radio (**thru 6/30/2023**) is current for two more months. Our ARRL Ham Radio **[Technician]** License Manual (**thru 6/30/2022**) is no longer the most current edition. That said, they both contain very useful information,

Over the course of the next few MARCI general meetings, a selection of the library books will be available on the table at the back of the meeting room. We will start with the most current books first, followed by the older books.

These books will be available for any MARCI member to take on a first come, first served basis. Please try to be considerate of your fellow members and limit yourself to a few books.

After all the books have been made available to members, any remaining books will be donated to a library or some other organization if possible.

Please visit the MARCI website at <http://manatee.startlogic.com/WP/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/MARCI-Library-2021-10-03.pdf> for a complete description of the books in our library.

VE Exam Sessions

When you're ready to take the Technician, General or Amateur Extra license exams, you may take them locally.

VE Exam Sessions: 3rd Saturday of the month, every two months.

Testing starts at 9:00 a.m.

2023 VE Exam Schedule:

06/17

08/19

10/21 - Plus MARCIFEST

12/16

Location:

Bible Baptist Church of Bradenton
2113 57th St E
Bradenton, FL 34208

Contact: James E. Woodson
(941) 301-8703

Sponsor: Manatee Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Websites of Interest

Our MARCI website: Manatee-ARC.org

The ARES website: MCESG.org

Manatee County Public Safety: https://www.mymanatee.org/departments/public_safety

SKYWARN: <https://www.weather.gov/skywarn/>

ARRL: ARRL.ORG

Club Meetings

Monthly MARCI Club Meeting

General membership meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bible Baptist Church located at 2113 57th St E, Bradenton, FL 34208. Please join us this coming **Tuesday, May 2nd**. Remember to bring items that you are no longer using but may still be of use to other MARCI members, to the “Swap & Drop” table at the back of the meeting room. You may find something that you’d really like to have for use in your shack!

Monthly MARCI Board of Directors Meeting

The monthly MARCI Board of Directors (BOD) meeting is held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. All members are welcome to attend (you don’t have to a member of the BOD). The next meeting will be on May 16th.

The link to the Zoom meeting does NOT change each month. Please join the meeting using this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4340953241?pwd=Qm52YWJGaWF4U29SMGk3bWVzRk1Ddz09>

Monthly ARES Meeting

General membership meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday each month. The next regular general membership meeting in April will be on Tuesday, May 23rd at 7 p.m. **at the Manatee County Public Safety Building (in the Emergency Operations Center)**, located at 2101 47th Ter E, Bradenton, FL 34203.

Clubs and Other Nets

MARCI Info Net	Sunday 7:00 p.m.	146.820 - 100 Hz
ARES Net	Monday 7:00 p.m.	146.820 - 100 Hz
MARCI Traders Net	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	146.820 - 100 Hz
Manatee SKYWARN Net	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	146.820 - 100 Hz
WCF Eagle Net (Local NTS Net)	Nightly 8:30 p.m.	145.43 - 100 Hz or 442.95 + 100 Hz
WCF Technical Net (tech assistance)	Thursday 9:00 p.m.	145.43 - 100 Hz or 442.95 + 100 Hz

PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN ALL OF THE NETS ON OUR REPEATER

Our Manatee Amateur Radio Club Net every Sunday night at 7 p.m. on the K4GG repeater, 146.820, is an excellent opportunity to learn about all the fun amateur radio activities that are happening in our club and across our ham radio community.

Our Club Net on Sunday night is often very poorly attended. Our club has over 100 members. Surely at least 15 or 20 of you can take 20 minutes out of your Sunday evening to check into your own club net!

On Monday evenings, feel free to drop in on the Manatee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Nets at 7 p.m. They are a bit more tactical and an easy way to improve your own operating skills.

On Thursday evenings at 8 p.m., we host the National Weather Service SKYWARN Net. Everyone is interested in the weather and SKYWARN is an easy way for you to contribute to this popular public service program.

DON'T FORGET about the Regional Nets on NI4CE on 145.430 and 442.950. The Eagle Net, the National Traffic System Traffic Net, is on every night at 8:30 p.m. Whether you are interested in "Traffic Handling" or not, everyone is welcome to check in and enjoy putting your radio to good use. They also host the regional SKYWARN Net on Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

The ARRL West Central Florida Technical Net is a very popular and informal activity held every Thursday at 9 p.m. or immediately after the end of the Eagle Net should that net run a little over.

With so many opportunities to listen in and participate, you are sure to meet new folks and discover many more of the interesting ways to use and enjoy your amateur radio license!