

RADIOWAVES



The MARCI Newsletter

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From The President of MARCI

I hope all of you had some fun on St. Patrick's Day. By the time you read this issue of RADIOWAVES it will be Easter so HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE.

Foremost on my mind this month is to relay to you news of some upcoming events. Each month at our General Membership Meeting as you all know a member or a guest graces us with a presentation on a topic or subject of interest. At our April General Membership Meeting, Amy Olson, the XYL of our Vice President Ken Olson - K4KEO, will be instructing us on CPR as well on automated electric defibrillation. (An AED is a type of computerized defibrillator that automatically analyzes the heart rhythm in people who are experiencing cardiac arrest.) This should be quite interesting and I'm sure we will all learn something from what Amy has for us.

Also, in late April we begin the processes where we determine the candidates for the election of the executives of MARCI. All executive positions within MARCI run only a one-year term and therefore a new election must take place annually, typically in May. A nominating committee will be formed, and you the membership will be asked to offer nominations for candidates. Once the candidates for each executive position have been determined, MARCI Members will then be asked to vote for one candidate for each office. This is an important process and I *strongly encourage you* to please take part in and be a part of the nominating AND ultimately the election process.

Somewhat later in the spring at our May General Membership Meeting Jack Ham - WG9X, will provide some information about Field Day Operations based on his past experience with another club he is affiliated with. Field Day as most of you know is an annual event that takes place the fourth full weekend in June. Field Day is ham radio's 'open house'.

Every June, thousands of hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations, many in public places, to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill, and service to our communities and our nation. It is a contest to many, a demonstration of skill and readiness to others, and a lot of fun to all.

Many of us will have been working with our respective Field Day teams the later part of June and would like to rest up the week afterwards, while some members and their families vacation after the conclusion of the local school year and vacation in July. With these facts in mind, MARCI does not have a General Membership Meeting in July. Instead, for those who would like to attend an event with their fellow MARCI members and just socialize, there is the MARCI SOCIAL DAY. This will take place on July 13th at the home of Bob Borsari - W4WRS, in East Bradenton. Bob's address is good on QRZ.com. A small committee will be established, and a blast email will soon follow with an invitation to attend, the start time and the address, as well as a request to volunteer various food or beverage or dessert items. Details on this will be forthcoming but save the date!

At the MARCI Social Day, Ed Skalecki NI4MX, our repeater trustee and member of the MARCI Board of Directors, will demonstrate a 'Radio Fox Hunt'. This is where a small, low power transmitter is hidden (in this case) in a close in area, and participants engage in locating it. It's fun and educational.

As a reminder to those that received (or should have received) the information provided by Ron Harroff - K9RH, on 'Personal Preparedness', there is the important inventory list of your personal property or valued collectibles (be they ham radio related, or baseball cards, or stamps, or ashtrays). This is something to take to heart. In our local area another ham passed away in the last two weeks and his family is scrambling to follow what they THINK would have been his wishes in the area of distribution or dissolving of his treasures.

I also have a ham friend whose wife just passed away. He is going through a tough time as would be expected. Besides the obvious, no instructions or the like were ever left, and her hobbies and interests rival many I have seen. These things leave a family in a tough spot where an inventory and instructions are not available to the family after the fact.

I hope to see you all at the March General Membership Meeting, Tuesday, April 2nd. Easter Sunday should be a time of peace to spend with your family or friends or both. My wife Sue and I wish you all a very happy and enjoyable Easter Season.

Lastly, please remember the “SWAP and DROP Table” in the rear of the meeting room. Bring in that ‘too good to throw away item’. Perhaps it is just what another member can use. Have a great month and as always, *PLEASE* ‘tell someone you love them’.

'73, Mike Ryan, K4CVL

From the Editor

Getting Into (Back Into?) Morse Code

Using Morse code to make contacts on the air is most rewarding. Anyone, with little help, can speak into a mike to communicate. On the other hand, using Morse code requires memorizing letters and other characters and serious practice to work up to a reasonable speed.

To get an idea about the speed of CW, 20 words-per-minute is 100 characters-per-minute. These sentences could be sent in one minute as it's about 100 characters:

“Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who does code the best of all? I don't know but it's a lot of fun knowing you can do what others can't.”

Read the sentence again and think about speaking it into a mike. Is Morse too slow?

Here is a great program for learning Morse and getting speed up to a reasonable amount:

<https://www.aa9pw.com/morsecode/test/>

Entering the above will take you to the page “Morse Code Generator.” Leave the settings as supplied. Scroll down to the orange box and click on “Generate a new practice set.” Then, scroll down a bit more and click on “Play.” You can play with the settings, but I suggest you change only the letters-set, first adding “R” to the “K, M” set.

If you are serious about learning Morse, I will happily work along with you.

New Members

Please welcome the following individual who was approved for membership at the MARCI Board of Directors meeting on March 19, 2024:

Joseph Henn, KQ40XZ

An excellent website for looking up available calls, applications, and call sign information is <https://www.radioqth.net>. You may also search the FCC database by going to their Universal Licensing System website at <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>.

Ham Radio Lunch Bunch at Beef 'O' Brady's



Consider joining these 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. It is in the Publix strip mall at the south end of the mall. Here's a link to the menu: <https://www.beefobradys.com/menus.aspx>.

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!

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

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>.

"Swap & Drop" Table at Our April 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!

ARRL Announces Changes in Membership Options

At the ARRL Board Meeting in July, the Directors approved increasing the regular membership dues rate to \$59 a year starting February 1, 2024. They also decided to separate the printed version of all magazines from membership, effective February 1, 2024, making these available as add-on subscriptions. **All ARRL members will continue to enjoy access to the digital editions of all ARRL magazines: QST, On the Air, QEX, and NCJ.**

Option 1

Members who prefer to continue reading the magazines online do not have to do anything. All members can access the digital editions of ARRL magazines at www.arrl.org/magazines

Option 2

Members who prefer to continue receiving a printed magazine may add-on a pro-rated print subscription now. A print subscription is \$25 per year. Your magazine subscription will be synced up with your current membership term. You may subscribe online at www.arrl.org/myARRL (you must be logged into the ARRL website). Or subscribe by phone at 888-277-5289 (toll free in the US).

From the Secretary

MARCI Minutes of the March 5, 2024 General Meeting

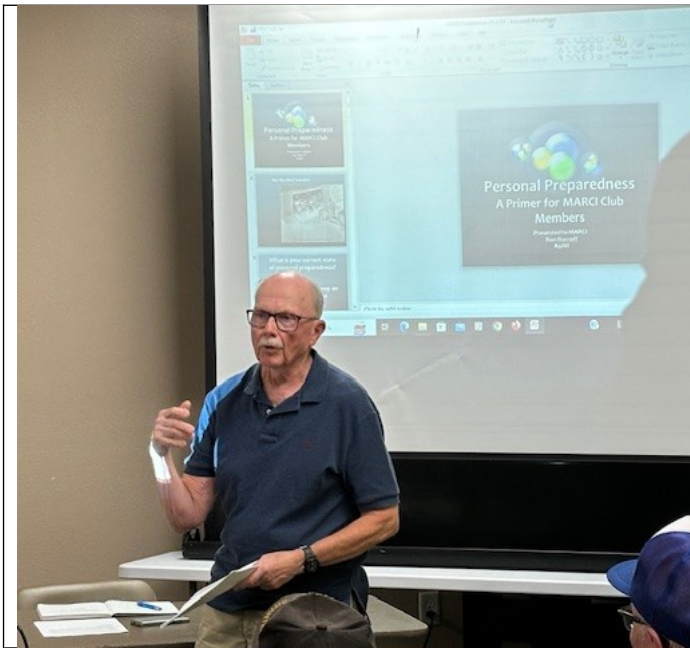
Tim Hostetler – WD8JTR, MARCI Secretary

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Mike Ryan – K4CVL, MARCI President and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a round of introductions of the 32 in attendance.
2. The Minutes of the February MARCI General Membership Meeting were read, corrected, and approved.
3. Jack Ham - WG9X gave a summary of the club treasury through February, 2024. Upcoming quarterly expenses and regulatory filings were reviewed. Motion to Accept and Seconded and the report was approved.
4. Mike Ryan – K4CVL gave updates regarding the 146.8200 and the 443.8750 repeaters; upcoming VE sessions; thanked Bill Miller and Brian Biery for their work on putting together the club newsletter “Radiowaves”; solicited more “Shack of the Month” pictures; solicited dues for 2024 from Club members who are in arrears; and solicited ideas for future meeting presentations. Examples of some future club activities such as a Fox Hunt and a Repeater Rodeo were discussed as was preliminary planning for a possible MARCI 2024 Field Day event (more details to follow as plans develop).
5. Mike Ryan – K4CVL introduced Ron Harroff-K9RH who gave a presentation regarding the need and benefits of creating a detailed equipment inventory and Ken Olson-K4KEO who gave a presentation regarding the proper selection and application of home fire extinguishers.
6. Mike Ryan thanked Ron and Ken for their presentations and offered closing comments.
7. The meeting adjourned around 8:20PM

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Hostetler – WD8JTR
MARCI Secretary
March 5, 2024

See the next page for photos of our presenters. Thank you, Ron, and Ken, for your very informative and important presentations!

Photos of Ron and Ken during their presentations:



Ron Haroff – K9RH



Ron explained the benefits of creating a detailed equipment inventory.



Ken Olson – K4KEO



Ken presented the proper selection and application of home fire extinguishers.

Strive to be a Considerate Operator – or Else!

Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, was the founder of the American Radio Relay League in 1914. He was the originator of a Wouff-Hong and a Rettysnitch in 1917. These devices were believed to be punishment for illegal and indecent operation. They were believable to early hams because they helped to ensure a lawful, decent, radio service. This would then inspire young and old alike to become hams and admire our ethics.



Wouff-Hong



Rettysnitch

Sadly, many of today's hams seem to ignore the high standards set by our predecessors. Too often we hear someone call "CQ" without inquiring "QRL" or "is the frequency in use". Deliberate interference (DQRM), possibly due to frustration, and not knowing what "UP" means are common. Such inconsiderate operating definitely violates the law and spirit of friendship and decency which were once the norm.

Many a dedicated ham still fears the Wouff-Hong and Rettysnitch today – deep in their own conscience.

Material for this article was provided by Jim Zientara, W4MAN.

Ham Shack of the Month – Jack Ham, WG9X

This month's "shack of the month" belongs to Jack Ham.



Jack describes his rigs:
Going Right to Left- Top to bottom, we have:

MFJ993B tuner, MFJ Versa III tuner,
Ameritron AL 811 amp.
HyGain Rotator control box,
New Yaesu FTM 710AESS
Top Back FT 70, Speaker and Movable
Microphone, Signal Link, FTM 100,
FTM-300, Bioenno Battery Monitor and
Astron Toaster (linear Power Supply)

April Puzzle — By Harry Rensel, KC4CFZ

Harry created a new offering here. He hopes you'll enjoy it.

RADIO BRANDS PAST & PRESENT

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

ALLIED
ALINCO
ATLAS
BENDIX
COLLINS RADIO
COBRA
EICO
GLOBE ELECTRONICS
GONSET
EMERSON
HAMMARLUND
HEATHKIT
JOHNSON
LAFAYETTE RADIO
HALLACRAFTERS
HONEYWELL
KNIGHTKIT
MIDLAND

TENTEK
RAMSEY
OLSEN
SONY
VERTEX
STANDARD YAESU
PALSTAR
RAYTHEON
RCA
RADIO SHACK
REGENCY
ZENITH
PANASONIC
SYLVANIA
ICOM
JAPAN RADIO COMPANY
E H SCOTT

Items for Sale

Peter Jarosik - KA1WBE (941) 580-8696

VECTOR-VID DC Power Supply

This is only a 6-amp max supply. It is used for bench testing and radio projects. It is adjustable from 0 to 30 volts and current from 0 to 6 amps. Asking \$50.00.



Alinco DR-135 2-meter 50-watt mobile radio.
Asking \$100.00 for it.



Astron 35A. This is a 35-amp linear power supply.
Will power your HF rig and many other radios.
Asking \$95.00 for it.



Swan PS 10 Power supply with built in speaker. This is a 10 Amp supply for a 2 meter or 440 radio. It can be used with low power HF radios too! Asking \$35.00 for It.



MARCI Polos



For Polo Shirts with embroidered MARCI patches contact Marsha Littlefield – (941-224-0400) Email - Mympmarsha@Yahoo.Com.
Marsha will appreciate getting multiple orders. Contact her for details.

VE Exam Sessions

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

The sessions are held the third Saturday of the month, every 2 months. The next session for 2024 will be Saturday, April 20.

Please note that testing starts promptly at 9:00 a.m.

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

Operators' License Class

Dan Smith - Trailer Estates CERT - is offering classes to assist in obtaining a HAM Radio Operators' license. Your prospective HAM operators are invited to attend.

Please notify Dan ASAP of your commitment to attend the classes so he may plan accordingly. Dan says:

I am scheduling a class for the Technician ham radio license exam in April. The classes will be held in the Trailer Estates Activity building as follows:

Monday April 8 and Monday April 15 @ 6pm and,
Thursday April 11 and 18 @ 7pm.

More info and details will be sent to individuals as they respond. I need a minimum of 5 or 6 to run the class and have no definite commitments yet.

Please have anyone interested email me so I can plan.
My email address is: SmithDPJr44@outlook.com

Regards,

Dan Smith, KD8RQW

Club Meetings

Monthly MARCI Club Meeting

General membership meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (**except July**) at 7:00 p.m. at the Bible Baptist Church located at 2113 57th St E, Bradenton, FL 34208. The next general membership meeting will be on Tuesday, April 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 be a member of the BOD). The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 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 of each month. The next regular general membership meeting will be on Tuesday, April 23rd at 7 p.m. at the Bible Baptist Church located at 2113 57th St E, Bradenton, FL 34208.

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 the nets on our repeater

Our Manatee Amateur Radio Club Net meets every Sunday night at 7 p.m. on the K4GG repeater, 146.820. It 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 poorly attended. The club has over 120 members. Please consider taking 20 minutes out of your Sunday evening to check into our MARCI club net!

On Monday evenings, you can drop in on the Manatee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Nets at 7 p.m. These are a bit more tactical and an easy way to improve your 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. The National Weather Service SKYWARN Storm Spotter Program website is weather.gov/SKYWARN.

The Regional Nets are 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 late.

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!