



Chipola Amateur Radio Club

CARC

Newsletter

March 18th, 2008

REPEATERS

146.670 –
147.045+, 123CG
444.950+, 123CG

CLUB NET

Our club, along with the Jackson County ARES, sponsors a net every Monday night at 7 PM on 146.670-.

CLUB EVENTS

Apr 19th, Club Meeting/Fox Hunt
May 20th, Club Meeting
Jun 21st, Meeting/Test Session

OTHER EVENTS

Apr 26th, Headland Tailgate
Jun 28-29, ARRL Field Day
Jul 11-12, Milton Hamfest

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Gary Brown, WW4JDO

Vice President

Brent Gay, KF4JZY

Secretary/Treasurer

Jeff Hagan, WO4J

CLUB OFFICIALS

Repeaters Coordinator

Jeff Hagan, WO4J

146.670 Repeater Trustee

Jeff Hagan, WO4J

147.045 Repeater Trustee

Bill Everitt, KG4ZJT

444.950 Repeater Trustee

Danny Tipton, KN4UC

Yahoo Moderator

Wayne Espey, KB4AAC

Echolink Moderator

Bill Everitt, KG4ZJT

Newsletter Editor

Gary Brown, WW4JDO

Web Master

Gary Brown, WW4JDO

NET CONTROL OPERATORS

Mar, KG4ZJT

Apr, KF4JZY

May, WO4J

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I was thinking the other day (thinking for me is dangerous) about those happiness is statements we hear every now and then and I was trying to apply that to ham radio. I was trying to think hotter/colder (i.e. hot cars and cold beer) or older/younger (i.e. older whiskey and younger women) when I came up with "happiness is a hot transmitter and cold tea". Being older and wiser I no longer think cold beer or young whiskey creates happiness. Quite to the contrary I think just the opposite but then that is another story. Back to happiness...I got to thinking again (getting dangerous) that a hot radio might not be happiness either. I mean it is happiness in that it means you have a radio and it comes on and is getting used quite a bit to get hot. But then the goal of all the cooling fins and fans on a radio is to keep it cool so getting hot is not good. Or getting hot may mean something is out of tune. Maybe I should modify my statement to say a "happiness is a warm radio and cold tea". But it just doesn't sound as good. Then again, maybe I have just too much time on my hands. 73

Gary, WW4JDO

Radio Direction Finding

RDF is nearly as old as the art of radio itself. In the early days, not only was being able to communicate over long distances found to be invaluable, but so was being able to locate the source of such a signal, especially in the event of an emergency. Although the technology has changed over the many decades, the essential elements of the techniques have not. Despite advances in technology, it is still largely up to the skill of the RDF equipment operator to make sense out of the information gleaned from their gear.

Amateur ("Ham") Radio has had a long history of RDF as well: It is not surprising that radio enthusiasts would make a sport out of their hobby as well. This sport most often involves so-called "transmitter hunting" or "fox hunting" in which amateurs compete against each other (individually or in groups) to be the first to locate a hidden transmitter.

A matter more serious is the fact that some stations (amateurs and non-amateurs) also break the law, either inadvertently or maliciously: Occasionally a transmitter (amateur or commercial) will malfunction or be inadvertently keyed up (e.g. sitting on a microphone, etc.) causing interference to amateur (or other) services. There is also the (hopefully) rare individual that insists on operating in an unlawful manner. It is at these times that RDF skills are invaluable: Being able to quickly locate and identify the offending transmitter (and/or operator) is important, especially if such disruptions have the potential of impacting communications that may be critical to life/safety. ☺