



Keyed Up

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LAKE MONROE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

April 16, 2024

Amateur Radio Active During Eclipse

Millions of people across the United States got to see a rare solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024.

The path of totality -- the line of darkness where the moon fully occluded the sun -- stretched through the South Pacific, Mexico, central Texas, the Ozarks, the Midwest, the Rust Belt area, and to New England through the Maritimes. In all, 14 ARRL Sections were impacted directly and several more were on the fringes of the solar umbra.

Amateur radio was active throughout the areas of impact. Most ARRL Sections in the path had been developing a plan with their served agencies for months or years beforehand.

Traffic was expected to be significant, with up to 3.7 million people forecast to travel to areas within the path of totality.

Radio amateurs were activated in many locations.

Social media posts throughout the amateur radio space hold anecdotes of 146.52 MHz being extremely active during the post-eclipse traffic jam.

Across the world, radio amateurs participated in the HamSCI Solar Eclipse QSO Party. It involved operating before, during, and after the eclipse to gather log data. Those logs will be studied by researchers in the coming

years to further investigate the sun's impact on the ionosphere.

HamSCI's program leader Dr. Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, was active from The University of Scranton Amateur Radio Club station. "I'm happy to report that we had an excellent day at W3USR in Scranton and believe that we both had fun and collected good data," he wrote in a message to the HamSCI team.

From The ARRL Letter

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MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$25.00 per year for Licensed Amateurs and \$5.00 for Associates. Family dues are \$30.00. Memberships are due on January 1.

Please submit your material to the editor by email.

THE PREZ SAYS...

RICH FISCHER, WA3SXX

It is nice to feel the days warming in the new season. For me, this is an indicator that it is once again time for outdoor activities. During April, on the 27th & 28th, we hold our annual Florida QSO Party. This is, for me, the best QSO Party as it belongs to our state. For us who like radio sport, this is an opportunity to have our Club on the air for two days to see how many other Hams interested in 'working Florida' we can contact. What is of interest to me is that they will be calling us. We will find a clear HF frequency to remain on and call 'CQ Florida QSO Party' to find a bunch of Hams answering us.

In my past column for the newsletter, I mentioned that this event will set up at Torcaso Park, but while V.P. Joe Marsh, KQ4AID is heading the event this year, he has arranged to use Central Winds Park for our event, instead. What a nice change, as the Florida QSO Party can be as grand as ARRL Field Day at the better park. Look for more information in the days to come from Joe.

Plan some time over the last weekend of this month to come out for 'Our QSO Party' to observe or to operate. If you are new at operating on HF, this is a marvelous time to get on the air. Our experienced operators will help you to enjoy the fun of radio sport. It is easy, as the exchange of information is always the same. You will announce the other station's signal report and our county: Seminole. This is great way to conquer microphone shyness. Out of state participants in FQP will be trying to contact all 67 counties in Florida. Seminole

Continued on Page 4...

TREASURER'S CHEST

MARY WOOD, KB4AOR

Business Expenses		Business Income	
Donuts/Coffee	\$27.98	50-50 Raffle	\$36.00
Storage	\$132.00	Coffee	\$25.00
		Dues	\$110.00
Total Expenses:	\$159.98	Total Income:	\$171.00

OVERALL CHANGE \$11.02

Bank Balance	\$13059.65
General Fund	\$10212.41
Equipment Replacement Fund	\$1937.47
Reserve/Repeater Fund	\$50.53
Scholarship Fund	\$440.00
Rookie Contest	\$0.00
Grant Money Remaining	\$419.24



MEETING MINUTES

ZACK ZACHARIAS, K2ZAK

Call to Order

Vice President Joe Marsh, KQ4AID, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, then led club members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Membership and Visitors

New Members

Geoffrey Dick WA4IKQ

Bruce Olin W4FBB

Rochelle Olin KQ4OSP

Randall Hobden KQ4PZE

Judy Baker WK4JB

Rod Baker WK4LR

A motion was made to accept the new members into the club. The motion was seconded by Ann Singleton. There was unanimous acceptance by the club members.

Visitors

Ken Countess KN2D

John-Paul Craig KQ4PQP

Old Business

- Dues are due. After April, non-paid dues will render the individual inactive.

New Business

- The Board of Directors will start working on bylaw revision to permit multiple Vice Presidents so the workload can be spread over multiple people. The requirement for voting by postal mail is being expanded to include email.
- Club Inventory: Ray Walker KO4JTA volunteered to help, still needing another person to help.

Announcements: None

Awards: None

Open Business: None

Events

- **HAMS in the Park and Florida state Parks on the Air:** Lake Louisa State Park is on April 6th, 2024. Dixie Lake Dock Pavilion.
- **Licensing Test:** Saturday April 22nd at Seminole County Sheriff's office.
- **Florida QSO Party:** April 27th and 28th Setup at 10 AM on Saturday, operation starts at noon and ends at 10 PM. Operations restarts Sunday 8AM and ends at 6 PM. Central Winds Park, Winter Springs
- **OARC Hamcation Appreciation Picnic.** April 27th 1 PM Email picnic@hamcation.com
- **Field Day.** June 22nd and 23rd. Central Winds Park, Winter Springs
- **Seminole County ARES:** May 11 ICS200. Meets 3rd Thursday of the month, The next presentation will be on Winlink.

Program

Rich Wilson: Rich gave a presentation on operating a station remotely using RemoteTx.net.

Closure of Meeting

Vice President Joe Marsh (KQ4AID) adjourned the meeting at 8:58 PM.

Secretary, Andrew "ZACK" Zacharias

Prez Says, continued...

County will be highly sought after. This is fun!

Also of interest to you will be seeing how to assemble and erect a triband beam antenna up on a 30 foot crank-up tower. It's affixed to our latest pride and joy — our newly constructed mobile radio operations trailer. It is named in honor of a long-time member who contributed very much to the success of LMARS, Mr. Michael Welsh, W1MNV, now Silent Key.

If you see Joe, thank him for the other terrific weekend events that he leads us on, which enable new and experienced Hams alike to set up in local parks for an afternoon of on-the-air fun. Joining his outings is a great way for our newest members to learn about Hamming. Note, too, that Joe is redesigning LMARS' Rookie Contest to begin again in May. You will find this to be your chance to learn a lot, along with rewards to be handed out at our Annual & Christmas Party in December.

So, I hope to see everyone with us during the 27th & 28th for 'FQP'!

73 de Rich, WA3SXX

Amateur Radio Saves Family in Death Valley National Park

Death Valley National Park is in a remote desert in southern California, where mobile phone networks are spotty at best. On Saturday, April 6, a radio amateur and his family were enjoying the park when their vehicle became stuck in mud in a dangerous area. Without access to a cell network, the ham called for help on the 10-meter band.

According to a news release from the Black Swamp Amateur Radio Club, Caleb Gustwiller, KD8TGB, jumped into action.

Gustwiller was monitoring from Ohio when he picked up the distress call. He was able to hear the call sign and the general location of the ham in distress. He lost the signal to the noise, so he wrote a post in the Parks on the Air®

Facebook group asking for other hams to listen for the calls.

Several hams contacted emergency officials in southern California, which led to the ham and their family being rescued within a few hours by park rangers. The club stated in their Facebook post: "Without Caleb hearing this distress call, it could have quickly become a very deadly situation for the operator and his family."

From The ARRL Letter

WANTED

**Hams Seeking Experience
On HF Bands**

**Become an OFFICIAL
SVTN Liaison Station**

**The Seminole VHF Traffic Net is
looking for amateur radio
operators who will relay
messages to HF traffic nets!**

**This is an easy, simple, non-threatening way to get
experience on the HF Bands and serve the National
Traffic System**

Contact Andy KG4QCD at abgausz@me.com

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

We are always looking for program presenters and we want to know what you would like to learn or hear about. If you are willing to do a presentation on a Ham related topic please let us know. Presentations in the 30-40 minute range are perfect. If you have something you would like to learn about or see please let us know.

Reach out to me, Joe Marsh, KQ4AID:

jhmarshfla@gmail.com

407-454-1520

April:

Operating a Remote Station

Thank you to Rich Wilson, WR4RW, for presenting at the April meeting. Rich presented on operating a remote station. The program talked about his journey in selecting the best method for him to work remotely and ended with a demo of the program he is using. Rich uses a program called RemoteTx, which is available through <https://remotetx.net/>. Rich operates his IC7300 and IC7100 through the program and did a demo transmission using the IC7100 through the LMARS Repeater, 147.285. All worked fine and it is a great looking program, and best of all it works for him. Once again a big THANKS to Rich.

May 2:

Pulling Data and Images Through Weather Satellites

Our May program will be presented by Warren Christophel, KB4KUO, and his presentation will be about Weather satellites and downloading images from them.

June 6:

Go-Box Expo

Our June program will be a show and tell event in celebration of Field Day. All are invited to bring your Radio Go Boxes/Portable Stations to show how you tote your gear to set up for portable operation. This also includes your portable power stations. It doesn't have to be a Pelican type case to qualify, I currently use a backpack designed for carrying Drone equipment. One of these days I will build a Pelican type case Go Box. One thing I do ask is if you plan on bringing your kit can you please email me and let me know so we can plan the needed space accordingly.

July 11:

Bioenno Power Solutions for Solar/ Radio Applications

Our July program will be a Zoom presentation by Kevin Zanjani, KI6DHQ of Bioenno.

August 1:

Radio Astronomy

Our August program will be presented by Alex Pettit Jr, KK4VB. Alex will talk about Radio Astronomy.

September 5:

LMARS Yearly Equipment Auction

We will not have a September Program due to the yearly auction. Start planning now and save your pennies, you never know what may be there.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

October 3:

FM Satellites

Our October program will be presented by Dennis Veselka, KI4KNC. The last presentation Dennis did was about CubeSat and was very interesting. This presentation will be on FM Satellites and operating through the FM Satellites.

November 7:

LMARS Yearly Elections

We will not have a November Program due to the yearly elections. This would be a great time to become a part of the Board. For those not sure a Director position is a great place to start. You help with the running of the club and help the club officers.

December 5:

LMARS Yearly Christmas Party

We will not have a December Program due to the Christmas Party. We always have Great food, Great times, and Great company. During the party we have club recognitions and final results of the club Rookie Challenge and Contest. Save the date and I hope you join us.

LMARS EVENTS

If you have any questions about any of the events or have a request please reach out to me, Joe Marsh, KQ4AID, ihmarshfla@gmail.com , 407-454-1520.

Previous Events

Tour De Cure

It was good seeing those who made it out to the Tour de Cure. Thank you to all those who participated, your help is greatly appreciated. Big thanks to the LMARS members who made it out. I believe I have everyone but if I missed you my apologies. Volunteers included: Frank Tagliani KD4EZW, Andy Gausz KG4QCD, Joe Marsh KQ4AID, Dennis Veselka KI4KNC, Nathaniel Smith WQ8P, Bob Cumming W2BZY, Howard Johnson KG4WOU, Warren Christophel KB4KUO, and Alex Chau W9NW.

Myself, Alex, and Warren worked at Rest Stop Bravo. Our equipment included an Icom 2730, 12aH battery, and the world famous Music Stand Antenna...

This is a great event organized by the Orange County ARES group. If you are new or looking for more experience you should join us next year. Your level of participation is up to you. There is every opportunity from shadowing, working rest stops, Sag, Roving, and more....

We hope to see you next year and again thanks to those who helped out.

Here are a few pics from our Rest Stop...



LMARS EVENTS

Previous Events

Hams In The Park & Florida State Parks On The Air

Our HAMS in the Park event was combined with the Florida State Parks on the Air weekend. It was a good time. We were at Lake Louisa State Park and used the Dixie Lake Dock Pavilion. Our morning consisted of making some POTA contacts; Helping each other with some different things; We ate donuts (yummy); and shared Amateur Radio with the public. We had some folks new to the hobby and a few that had been out of it for a while stop by and learn about what we were doing and what was going on in the hobby. Thanks to Ramon Alicea KJ4UZM, Randy Hobden KQ4PZE, and Dick Stadler KO4ULV for coming out.

The HAMS in the Park event is open to all and I would encourage you to come out. Young or mature, new or experienced, licensed or unlicensed, with or without gear. Come out and join us. We would love to see you.

Upcoming Events

Florida QSO Party: April 27-28, 2024

This event is open to all.

Setup: Saturday, April 27 at 10:00am EDT

Operating: Saturday, April 27 1600Z (Noon EDT) – April 28 0159Z (9:59 PM EDT)

Operating: Sunday, April 28 1200Z (8 AM EDT) - 2159Z (5:59 PM EDT)

Teardown: Sunday, April 28 at 6:00pm EDT (probably around 4.00 PM EDT)

Location: Central Winds Park, 1000 Central Winds Dr, Winter Springs, FL 32708.

(Please see the website for full details and exact GPS location.)

For those not familiar, the Florida QSO Party is a 20 hour contest that allows radio amateurs from outside and inside of Florida to contact as many Florida stations as possible in the state's 67 counties. The contest is designed to be fun, and participants can earn a "Sweep" award by working all 67 counties.

We participate in the contest to give others the contacts and practice our skills.

The pace of the event is set by you, the operator. It can be fast or slow. This is a great chance to make a first contact, practice and improve your contesting skills, or

just make simple contacts. During the event we operate under the club call of N4EH.

On Saturday we need help setting up starting at 10.00am with the event starting at noon. For those going to the Hamcation Picnic come on out and help us set up, then go to the picnic, then come back for some on-the-air fun. We have a signup sheet if you would like to reserve operating, logging, and/or shadowing time. (See the website.)

Those who join us can stay for a little, or the whole time. There's plenty of time for everyone to get on the air, and we will be there to help if you need it. It will be a good time!

[You can find full Details on the LMARS website](#)

LMARS EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Hams In The Park: May 4, 2024

This event is open to all.

Our next Hams in the Park will be on May 4, 2024 and will be at Blue Jacket Park in Orlando. It will run from 8.00am – 1.00pm (later if you like).

If you're new and don't have gear, or if you do not have much experience, that is OK. We will share our equipment and our knowledge with you. It's all about learning and having Fun.

If you have gear bring it, this includes: Your HF radio/s and cables; Antenna/s; VHF/UHF radio; Portable table; Popup canopy; Camp chair; Drink, snacks of your choice, lunch if you like; Portable power (battery, solar)

Hope you come join us.

[You can find full Details and GPS location on the LMARS website](#)

Have a suggestion for a HAMS in the Park location let us know.

Orange County ARES Presentation: Nano VNA: May 9, 2024

This event is open to all.

Our next Hams in the Park will be on May 4, 2024 and will be at Blue Jacket Park in Orlando. It will run from 8.00am – 1.00pm (later if you like).

If you're new and don't have gear, or if you do not have much experience, that is OK. We will share our equipment and our knowledge with you. It's all about learning and having Fun.

If you have gear bring it, this includes: Your HF radio/s and cables; Antenna/s; VHF/UHF radio; Portable table; Popup canopy; Camp chair; Drink, snacks of your choice, lunch if you like; Portable power (battery, solar)

Hope you come join us.

[You can find full Details and GPS location on the LMARS website](#)

[website](#)

Have a suggestion for a HAMS in the Park location let us know.

Field Day: June 22-23, 2024

This year the Lake Monroe Amateur Radio Society and the Seminole County ARES/RACES Group will team up to host an amazing event. The 24-hour international operating event will be held June 22 & 23. The theme for 2024 is "Be Radio Active." The theme encourages radio amateurs to take advantage of the peak of Solar Cycle 25.

The event will be located at Central Winds Park in Winter Springs at the Moss Park Pavilion and Events Ground. All are welcome! Young or mature, new or experienced, licensed or unlicensed.

Field Day is a popular on-air event that takes place annually in the US and Canada. The event is a part contest, emergency communications exercise, and open house. The objective of the event is to contact as many stations as possible on the 160-, 80-, 40-, 20-, 15-, and 10-Meter HF bands.

The event will include 4 operating stations, a GOTA station (Get on The Air), a satellite station, and a UHF/VHF station. This is a great event for both experienced and inexperienced people. Plenty of time to operate and learn.

We are still in the planning stages so if you would like to help reach out to Joe, KQ4AID, 407-454-1520.

[We will have full and updated details on the LMARS website soon.](#)

LAKE MONROE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

Today's Date:

Last Name:

First Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Call Sign:

Class:

Email:

Fax:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

ARRL Membership: YES NO

Revised 10/21/2017

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$25.00 PER YEAR FOR AN INDIVIDUAL AND \$30.00 PER YEAR FOR A FAMILY. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IS \$5.00 EACH. NEW MEMBER DUES PAID ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1 WILL CARRY OVER UNTIL DECEMBER 31 OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR.
ALL DUES/RENEWALS ARE DUE ON JANUARY 1.

New:

Individual Associate Family

Total: \$

Renewal:

Individual Associate Family

Total: \$

Preferred Name Tag(s) (no charge):

PRINT THIS PAGE, FILL OUT THE FORM, AND MAIL IT TO LMARS. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO **LMARS**.

RETURN TO: **LAKE MONROE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**
c/o MARY WOOD KB4AOR, 7747 DANU DRIVE, ORLANDO FL 32822

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING

LMARS Testing

LMARS conducts monthly amateur radio exams for all elements every month (except December) on the third Saturday at the Seminole County Sheriff's Office off of 17-92 on 100 Eslinger Way (previously Bush Blvd.) in Sanford, across from Flea World. Be there at 9:15AM. For more information and registration contact Bob Cumming W2BZY at 407-333-0690 or w2bzy@cfl.rr.com.

LARA Testing

This session has been cancelled until further notice.

OARC Testing

COVID-19 affects amateur radio testing. Until further notice, contact Bob Cumming at 407-333-0690 or w2bzy@cfl.rr.com for OARC testing information.

THE LMARS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS HELD EVERY FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE WINTER SPRINGS CIVIC CENTER AT 400 N. EDGEMON AVE. IN WINTER SPRINGS. THE MEETING STARTS AT 7:30PM. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.LMARS.ORG



Seminole VHF Traffic Net

Official Net of the National Traffic System

147.285 MHz

Lake Monroe Amateur Radio Society

Every Night at 7:15PM

www.lmars.org