



GULF COAST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

WA4GDN



GULFCOASTARC.COM

JANUARY 2026

President's Report

Happy New Year!

I would like to thank those who have provided their Support as I transition to leading our club as your new president. I am excited about our club venturing into other areas such as starting a youth program to Educate our youth, a GMRS program to assist anyone with stepping on to Amateur Radio, more Community involvement, and as our world is constantly changing, our club learning more about equipment available for Amateur Radio use today.

Now for some news. Our presentations will continue starting in February with GO KITS show and tell and then in March Portable Antennas. Our POTA's, Library Introduction table, community assistance with Races, Club luncheon, Fox Hunts will continue. Our coordinators and assistants are doing an awesome presentation for our club to the public. Through these events we are allowed to share with the public our knowledge and educate them and have fun doing so. As our club grows and changes, you will be presented with more committees to benefit the club and we will be adding a club Breakfast during the week.

Thanks to Chris Bloxsom for providing two tickets, 2 drawings, to Hamcation 2026 in Orlando, for give away at our January 26th club meeting, to anyone, member or non-member. Just show up and put your name on the list.

Thanks to Chuck Miller for the awesome job he does as our Public Information officer. In Moving forward, our first 2026 board meeting is January 26th at 6pm at school before our club meeting Starts at 7pm.

Now personal note from your president, I have been researching and experimenting with using an Atas 120A antenna portable with my 891A Radio.

Stay tune until our next Newsletter, when I will share my review on my experiments.

Thank you all for allowing me to be your President, I look forward to working with you.
Pam, KQ41OT, Your Club President

Please email me pamKQ4IOT@gmail.com if you would like to do a presentation or let me know what you would like to hear a presentation on.

Club News

I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas and New Year's Holiday. I wish to apologize for the lack of a December newsletter. I had a catastrophic failure of my "main" computer that holds most of the graphics, templates and software I use to publish this news letter, that I have not yet recovered from. Preparing for Holiday travel and that travel took up a lot of the time I would have spent getting things back to normal. Bottom line is we have a lot to catch up on.

First, at the November membership meeting we held our annual board of directors election. Chris KC3CJU, Gary W8GLL ran unopposed for the positions they previously held on the BoD. Pam KQ4IOT ran unopposed for President.

During the "nomination" process, the nomination committee found some inconsistencies with our current by laws. A motion was made to form a committee to "clean up" and update our by laws and present a new set of by laws to the membership for approval.

On December 6th the GCARC held it's annual Christmas Party at Golden Corral in New Port Richey where the newly elected officers were sworn in.

The Club had a table at the 50th Tampa Bay Hamfest. We sold some items that were donated to the club and gained a few new members. It was a very successful two days. I would like to give a big shout out and thank you to Bill Shimer N9ZXP for making the trek to Plant City and helping me out on Saturday. Your presence was greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!

REMINDER!!!

RENEWEL APPS & DUES ARE DUE!

**PLEASE SUBMITT DUES WITH RENEWAL APPLICATION
ASAP!**

[SCAN THE BARCODE TO DOWNLOAD THE MEMBERSHIP APP](#)



On to upcoming events. Saturday January 17th we will have a POTA at Hillsborough River State Park, starting around 9:30 am. I know it's a long way but it is a nice park and one we will not have many chances to activate. Everyone is welcome! If you have never activated a POTA park. Come on by and we will get you your first activation.

January 9th at 6:00 pm there will be a Winter Field Day planning meeting at 6pm, 7434 Mengi Circle, New Port Richey.

Speaking of Winter Field Day, it will be January 24th and 25th. We need volunteers to help set up Saturday morning and break down Sunday. Also people to "operate" off hours. Great opportunity to hone your HF skills. Please contact Barry N2NVP at keavbv@msn.com. For more details on the 2 day event refer to the flyer below.

Jumping ahead to February, HAMCATION is right around the corner. There is a group of club members planning to rent a van to go over to Orlando. I do not know if there is any space available but you can contact Tim WD8MVU for more info.

The Net Control Schedule for the Tuesday night Info and Traders Net for this month is:

- * Jan 6 Pam KQ4IOT
- * Jan 13 Barry N2NVP
- * Jan 20 Nick KN4IKR
- * Jan 27 Chuck K5KAZ

The next club Membership meeting will be Monday, January 26th at 7pm.

Millenium Academy, 10005 Ridge Rd. New Port Richey.

The monthly calander will return to the newsletter next month. A January calander will be available shortly on the website. Click on the link in the header of the front page or scan the QR code at the bottom of page 2 to go to the website for any current updates!

Club Membership

Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club offers 3 levels of memberships.

Individual, Family and Junior. Applicants need not be licensed to become members.

Membership runs for 12 months, beginning on January 1 and ends December 31.

For more information, email membership@gulfcoastarc.com .

All memberships are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors!

Regular & Associate Membership* \$25

Junior Membership \$15

Family Membership* \$30

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[CLICK HERE](#) to download membership application!



Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club

Invites you to 2026 Winter Field Day
JANUARY 24th 10am - JANUARY 25th 11:30am

Come see how we prepare for community safety by setting up our equipment and test our equipment to be trained and prepared to assist with communication when a disaster or emergency occurs.

Location One: Jay B. Starkey Wilderness Park at Cabin 5,
10500 Wilderness Park Blvd
New Port Richey, FL 34655

Location Two: Millennium Academy
10005 Ridge Road
New Port Richey, FL 34654



"Amateur Radio is still considered the last means of communication when all else fails"

MONDAYS DIGITAL NET



7:30pm 145.350Mhz

TUESDAYS



INFO & TRADER'S NET
7:30pm 146.670Mhz
PI tone 146.2hz

The club is looking for members to be Net Controllers

The Tuesday Night Net is an important function of the GCARC, and the Nets must have a controller to keep the flow of information orderly. Right now we need more Net Controllers, so the same few people aren't holding the Nets week after week.

Being a Net Controller is fun, you get to practice your on-the-air skills, and you get to use your radio equipment in a live exercise. And you are helping the club by donating about 30 minutes of your time for maybe one night a month. You will even be furnished scripted dialogue, so you don't have to ad lib.

If you are a member in good standing, and you have a radio rig that can reach the club repeater clearly and reliably, you can let us know if you'd like to be a Net controller by several means: you can post a message on our Facebook site, or send us a message through the "contact us" link on the web site, or just say so during a Net.

Please give it some thought. We'd love to have you join us as a Net Controller.

Nick

KN4IKR

stewartnick@erols.com



THURSDAYS
7:30PM
10M 28.430MHZ SSB



SKY WARN NET

1st & 3rd WEDNESDAYS
and as necessary
7:30pm 146.670Mhz
PI tone 146.2hz

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145.350Mhz Repeater
is now
WIRES-X
Capable!

Wa4gdn - Florida