



GULF COAST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Newsletter

APRIL 2026



www.gulfcoastarc.com

The monthly membership meeting was held on Monday, March 23rd at Millennium Academy. February meeting minutes and financial report had been emailed to the membership earlier. No club business was conducted. Club business will be conducted quarterly rather than monthly going forward. Al, AJ4JA gave a brief presentation on "PICO balloons". The club will be launching one in the near future in conjunction with the Academy. Karl WA2KBZ gave a very informative and entertaining presentation on traveling with ham radio. The April membership meeting will be on Monday, the 27th.

Club Luncheon

On Saturday March 21st the club held a luncheon at Susie's Too. It has been a while since we had what once was a monthly event. We plan on increasing the regularity of the luncheon and returning it to a monthly event.



On Thursday night, March 26th we held a “tape measure yagi” antenna building event. I would like to thank Al AJ4JA, Barry N2NVP and Nicolas KO4KEE for contributing their time and expertise . We had four members come build antennas for building one for themselves, scan or click on link to directions and materials.



“FOX HUNTING”. If anyone is interested in the QR code for an instructional video with a

On Saturday, March 28th we held a Fox Hunt. Participants met at the Academy at 9:45 and were handed a map with the search area and sent on their way! Even though the “fox” was not transmitting as far as it should it did not take long for the hunters to find the general location of the fox which was hidden at Veterans Memorial Park on Hicks Rd. in Hudson’ Once there the fox was found by one of newest members and very recently licensed ham, Jon Bovis. Jon had an ingenious method of attenuating the signal to close in on the fox. I will not reveal that method here. Mike W0MES was second to find the fox. Congratulations Jon and Mike and thanks to everyone who participated.



NEXT TEST SESSION!

Scheduled for Saturday, April 11th

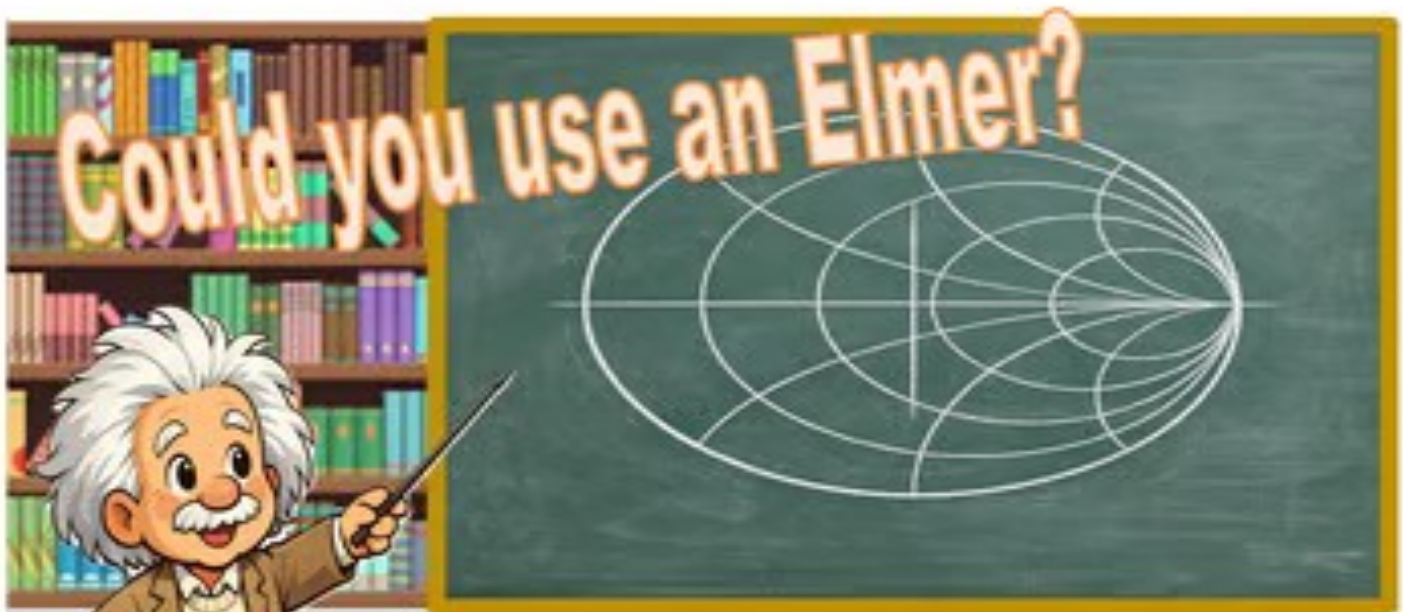
10:00 AM

Millenium Academy

10005 Ridge Rd, New Port Richey

Contact Al at AJ4JA@ICLOUD.COM





The Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club has knowledgeable Ham operators waiting and willing to answer your questions. Just click on the link below and fill out the form and we will put you intouch with someone who can answer your question or find you the answer.



Scan or click on the QR code
and
fill in the Elmer request form!

“POTA is NOT a contest”






**But just for FUN, here is the leader list for
Werner-Boyce!**

**Jim chasing Mike and Chuck 1 Chasing
Chuck too!**

It is a “friendly competition”!

Park Leaders

Activations

1.	 W0MES	119
2.	 K4YZI	117
3.	 KA4CEM	39
4.	 K5KAZ	37
5.	 KK1TLS	8



Florida State Parks ON THE AIR



SATURDAY APRIL 18TH

WERNER-BOYCE SALT SPRINGS STATE PARK

8737 US-19, Port Richey

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

We will have at least 2 stations set up! We will be using the club call WA4GDN in addition to the opr's call!

Come on down and get on the air! Even if you never activated a park! Now is the time! Get an activation and help the club in The Florida Parks on the Air contest

**Scan the QR Code
or [Click here](#) for
FSPOTA 2026 RULES!**



2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	AL EKBLAD	AJ4JA	AJ4JA@ICLOUD.COM
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NET CONTROL OPERATORS!

APRIL 7	NICK	KN4IKR
APRIL 14	WAYNE	KD2UDU
APRIL 21	BARRY	N2NVP
APRIL 28	CHUCK	K5KAZ

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

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNSDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			SKYWARN NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz	10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Fusion Net 7:30 145.350MHz	GCARC INFORMATION NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz		10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		 TEST SESSION-10:00AM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Fusion Net 7:30 145.350MHz	GCARC INFORMATION NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz	SKYWARN NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz	10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Fusion Net 7:30 145.350MHz	GCARC INFORMATION NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz		10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		
26	27	28	29	30		
	MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING	GCARC INFORMATION NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz		10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		

Club POTA, Saturday, April 11th 9:00am (SEE FLYER ABOVE)

LICENSE TEST SESSION, SATURDAY 4/11/2026 10AM. CONTACT AL AJ4JA@ICLOUD.COM