



# **GULF COAST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** **Newsletter**

[www.gulfcoastarc.com](http://www.gulfcoastarc.com)

**April 2025**

## **FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT**

Last year as a club, we decided to sell our older equipment and purchase a newer club radio that offers more of the latest technology. Additionally, because our club is active with POTA events and Field Day, we also want to acquire some bandpass filters. The club has already sold off some of its inventory, however, some inventory remains. To liquidate the remaining items, GCARC has decided to get a tailgate spot at the upcoming Tampa Amateur Radio Club (TARC) Hamfest. The date of the Hamfest is Saturday, April 12th starting at 8am and will be at the TARC Clubhouse facility located at 7801 North 22nd Street, Tampa. We are looking for club members who would be willing to volunteer and help sell our remaining inventory. With the weather getting nice, spending a few hours outdoors at a Hamfest is fun. If you are interested in helping out, please contact me at [N1MT.CW@Gmail.com](mailto:N1MT.CW@Gmail.com). If you've never been to the TARC clubhouse, you should take the time to visit. I believe they have 3 towers, numerous Yagi's and wire antennas, and 6 different operating positions. It is a great station. I had a chance to operate from there and yes, that station puts out a "Big" signal.

Talking about Hamfest's, in April we are planning on having another guest speaker at our monthly meeting. Tim Fida, WB0YSX, will be talking to us about Planning and Running a Successful Hamfest. I ask that we all show our support and appreciation Tim and please try your best to attend the meeting.

Remember, this is your club so please let your voice be heard. Should you have any questions or concerns, you can reach me at [N1MT.CW@gmail.com](mailto:N1MT.CW@gmail.com)

73 Mark. N1MT dit dit



# GCARC News

At the March membership meeting, Ron Bouthillier W1VET, gave a presentation on 3d printing. His presentation was very informative and interesting. The GCARC would like thank Ron for taking the time to come to our meeting. Here is a link to his website [W1VET Electronics](#) . We would also like to thank Pam KQ4IOT for recruiting Ron to do the presentation.

On Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> the club POTA will be held at Homosassa State Park. We had a great turn out for last months POTA, let's see if we can equal or surpass that. Stop by and activate the Park, even if you have not done POTA before we will have radios for you to use. I know it is a little bit further away but worth the trip!

Our monthly testing session is scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am. If you are or know anybody that wants to take the test contact Al at [AJ4JA@ICLOUD.COM](mailto:AJ4JA@ICLOUD.COM) for information and registration.

As Mark stated previously the club is in the process of selling our “old” equipment and replace it with “newer” radio. To that end we will seek member’s opinions on what specific purchase we should make. Keep an eye for an email survey in the next few days.

For any updates made after distribution of this newsletter please check the website at <http://www.gulfcoastarc.com>

## Member Meeting Upcoming Presentations

Month	Topic	Presenter
April 2025	Planning and Running a Successful Hamfest	GUEST – Tim Fida, WB0YSX
May 2025	How to build a Yagi, Vertical, or Dipole Antenna	MEMBER - Nico Maldonado
June 2025	What is GMRS?	MEMBER – Scott Allshouse
July 2025	FT8 – Data communications	MEMBER – Roger Reese
August 2025	How to build a 9:1 Balun	Member – Mark Toussaint



Linking the World via VoIP  
**WIRES**



**Our 145.350  
repeater is now  
connected with  
Wirex-X  
Our Room is  
WA4GDN FL or #43516**



**Club digital net  
on Mondays at  
7:30 pm**



# FLORIDA STATE PARKS ON THE AIR



## Club POTA



## APRIL 5th

Join Us  
at

# Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park

9225 W Fishbowl Dr, Homosassa, FL

# APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		GCARC Info & Trader Net 7:30pm 146.670Mhz	<b>SKYWARN NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz</b>	10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Sunday Night Net 7:30 pm 145.350 Mhz	<b>Fusion Net 7:30 145.350Mhz</b>	GCARC Info & Trader Net 7:30pm 146.670Mhz		10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
Sunday Night Net 7:30 pm 145.350 Mhz	<b>Fusion Net 7:30 145.350Mhz</b>	GCARC Info & Trader Net 7:30pm 146.670Mhz	<b>SKYWARN NET 7:30 PM 146.670Mhz</b>	10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
Sunday Night Net 7:30 pm 145.350 Mhz	<b>Fusion Net 7:30 145.350Mhz</b>	GCARC Info & Trader Net 7:30pm 146.670Mhz		10M HF NET 7:30 PM 28.430Mhz USB		
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			
Sunday Night Net 7:30 pm 145.350 Mhz	<b>MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b>	GCARC Info & Trader Net 7:30pm 146.670Mhz				



On **Thursday** nights at 7:30 pm the GCARC club holds a **10 meter HF net**. 10 Meters HF – 28.430 MHz SSB (USB). The purpose is to promote activity on the 10 meter band (especially during low sunspot activity). To give technician class operators an opportunity to operate phone, and to provide a venue for conversation and experimentation with antenna and ground wave propagation.

**Skywarn net!**  
**Held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month!**  
**146.670Mhz WA4GDN repeater!**



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On **Tuesday** nights at 7:30pm we hold a **trader's and general information net** on the WA4GDN repeater at 146.670. If you have an amateur radio related item to buy, sell, trade, or want, you may list it here. All brief amateur related announcements may be made here.

## Board of Directors

NAME / CALL	BOARD POSITION	EMAIL
Mark Toussaint, N1MT	President	n1mt@arrl.net
Chuck Miller K5KAZ	Vice President	chuckmk5kaz@gulfcoastarc.com
Al Ekblad, AJ4JA	Secretary	aj4ja@icloud.com
Gary LaMunion, W8GLL	Treasurer	w8gl18@gmail.com
Chris McCullough, KC3CJU	Director	kc3cju@gmail.com
Barry Keaveny, N2NVP	Past President	keavbv@msn.com
Chuck Martin, KA4CEM	Director	chuck33@tampabay.rr.com

*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 Tuesday Night Net Controller Schedule**

**April 01 Barry N2NVP**

**April 08 Wayne KD2UDU**

**April 15 Pamela KQ4IOT**

**April 22 Nick KN4IKR**

**April 29 Chuck K5KAZ**

## Membership Information

*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](mailto: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**