



# GULF COAST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

JULY 2025

## *From the DESK of the President*

At our last Board Meeting, I told the directors that I'm going to be resigning as President, effective August 31. Joanne and I are planning on relocating to the east coast of Florida to be closer to family. I have been active in GCARC for 4 years and have been a member of the Board for almost 3 years. I have had the privilege of meeting some great, very knowledgeable hams and have served on the Board with some great leaders. When I joined 4 years ago, the club had 24 paid members, and our monthly meetings had about 8 to 10 regular attendees. Today, we have 61 members and getting around 20 – 25 attendees at our monthly meetings. These increases are attributed to numerous club members advocating for the club and placing an emphasis on attracting new members. The club also has been proactive with its communications via numerous platforms. GCARC also introduced a monthly POTA event that now has 10 to 15 attendees each month. Another change that happened about 1 year ago, members voiced their desire to change the format of the monthly meetings, getting more educational and informative content presented. Based upon feedback that I have heard, this change was the most impactful, in a positive way for the club. Moving forward, I hope the GCARC board continues to embrace change and that many of the new members get involved with coordinating and the leadership within the club.

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the contributions that silent key, Ralph McCullough has made to the club over the years. He served in numerous capacities over the years, and he was extremely helpful to me, as I transitioned onto the Board. I'm sure I speak for all of us; we miss him dearly. When my resignation takes place, our By-Laws place the Vice President into the President's role. Our current VP is Chuck Miller. Chuck has demonstrated his leadership on the Board and is one of the more active day-to-day members. He is also our current PIO and is very familiar with all the club data & communication techniques. I am certain the club will function at a high level with him stepping in as President, filling my remaining term.

Over the next 2 months, my time will be limited but I will do my best to keep club activities moving along and I truly thank all club members for their help and support over the years. I'll only be 2 ½ hours away, so I'm sure our paths will continue cross. Thank you!

73 Mark, N1MT dit dit

## Member Meeting Upcoming Presentations

| Month          | Topic                            | Presenter               |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| July 2025      | What is GMRS?                    | MEMBER – Pam KQ4IOT     |
|                |                                  |                         |
| August 2025    | Building a Balun / Unun          | MEMBER – Mark Toussaint |
|                |                                  |                         |
| September 2025 | Lightning Protection / Grounding | Karl Schulte            |



**GCARC NEWS**

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, the GCARC provided communications for the Rap River Run road race in New Port Richey. This marks over a decade+ of club participation in this event. We would like to thank Barry N2NVP for his coordination of this event along with his organization of our participation in Tunnels to Towers and Special Olympic races.

June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> was the ARRL Field Day event, we almost did not have an organized participation (more on that later) but we made over one hundred phone contacts, 13 CW and I do not have the final number of FT8 contacts. I will publish the results in next month's newsletter.

As reported last month, the club sold all it's old radio equipment and purchased a new radio and some bandpass filters. We had previously conducted a survey of the membership to find out what radio they would like to see us purchase. The Yaesu ft-991 came out on top of that survey with the Yaesu ft-710 in second place. After consideration and debate the board decided to purchase the FT-710. This radio better serves the needs of the club at considerably less expense.

The big news this month as you have already read in the President's message is that Mark N1MT is resigning his position. I wish Mark and Joanne the best on their move to the east coast. I completely understand the wish to be close to family. I want to thank Mark for all he has done for our club during his term as president, I also would like to thank Mark for his kind words about me in this month's message. The fact is though; I feel my skill set best serves the club in something other than a leadership roll. Having said that I will try to the best of my ability to fill Mark's shoes through at least the remainder of his term. We have grown recently but there is room for more. I am going to need the help of the membership to be successful.

***Here is where I am calling for greater participation from the membership. When we have the same people stepping up time after time, burnout becomes a real issue. We almost did not have an organized field day this year because we did not have any volunteers for event coordinator until the very last minute. The same people step up time after time, we all know who they are and appreciate what they do. We can make this a great club, but it is going to take more people to get involved. Whether it is volunteering for event committees, a presentation at a membership meeting or running for a seat on the board!***

Chuck

K5KAZ

# JULY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY                                 | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY                                     | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY | SATURDAY                                 |
|--------|--|---|---|---|--------|--|
|        |  | 1<br>GCARC<br>Info & Trader<br>Net<br>7:30pm<br>146.670Mhz  | 2<br>SKYWARN<br>NET<br>7:30 PM<br>146.670Mhz  | 3<br>10M HF<br>NET<br>7:30 PM<br>28.430Mhz USB  | 4      | 5<br>POTA!<br>Werner-Boyce<br>State Park |
| 6      | 7<br>Fusion Net<br>7:30<br>145.350Mhz  | 8<br>GCARC<br>Info & Trader<br>Net<br>7:30pm<br>146.670Mhz  | 9   | 10<br>10M HF<br>NET<br>7:30 PM<br>28.430Mhz USB | 11     | 12<br>TEST<br>SESSION<br>10:00AM         |
| 13     | 14<br>Fusion Net<br>7:30<br>145.350Mhz | 15<br>GCARC<br>Info & Trader<br>Net<br>7:30pm<br>146.670Mhz | 16<br>SKYWARN<br>NET<br>7:30 PM<br>146.670Mhz | 17<br>10M HF<br>NET<br>7:30 PM<br>28.430Mhz USB | 18     | 19                                       |
| 20     | 21<br>Fusion Net<br>7:30<br>145.350Mhz | 22<br>GCARC<br>Info & Trader<br>Net<br>7:30pm<br>146.670Mhz | 23  | 24<br>10M HF<br>NET<br>7:30 PM<br>28.430Mhz USB | 25     | 26                                       |
| 27     | 28<br>MONTHLY<br>MEMBERSHIP<br>MEETING | 29<br>GCARC<br>Info & Trader<br>Net<br>7:30pm<br>146.670Mhz | 30  | 31<br>10M HF<br>NET<br>7:30 PM<br>28.430Mhz USB |        |  |

**July 5th Parks on the Air from Werner-Boyce Salt Springs State Park**  
**We'll be there from about 9am until about 1pm!**

**July 12 Licenses testing 10am at Millennium Academy. Contact Al at**  
**aj4ja@icloud.com if you want to take the tech test or upgrade!**

**The presentation at the monthly meeting will be about GMRS.**  
**Presented by Pam KQ4IOT**



# July Tuesday Night Net Controller Schedule

**JULY 1st**

**Wayne**

**KD2UDU**

**JULY 8th**

**Pamela**

**KQ4IOT**

**JULY 15th**

**Barry**

**N2NVP**

**JULY 22nd**

**Nick**

**KN4IKR**

**JULY 29th**

**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***

# MONDAYS DIGITAL NET

7:30pm 145.350Mhz



## TUESDAYS



## INFO & TRADER'S NET

7:30pm 146.670Mhz

PI tone 146.2hz



## 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



# 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](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**

Visit our website  
**GULFCOASTARC.COM**

**For the latest info and updates!**

## Board of Directors

| NAME / CALL              | BOARD POSITION | EMAIL  |
|--------------------------|----------------|--|
| Mark Toussaint, N1MT     | President      | <a href="mailto:n1mt@arrl.net">n1mt@arrl.net</a>                               |
| Chuck Miller K5KAZ       | Vice President | <a href="mailto:chuckmk5kaz@gulfcoastarc.com">chuckmk5kaz@gulfcoastarc.com</a> |
| Al Ekblad, AJ4JA         | Secretary      | <a href="mailto:aj4ja@icloud.com">aj4ja@icloud.com</a>                         |
| Gary LaMunion, W8GLL     | Treasurer      | <a href="mailto:w8gl8@gmail.com">w8gl8@gmail.com</a>                           |
| Chris McCullough, KC3CJU | Director       | <a href="mailto:kc3cju@gmail.com">kc3cju@gmail.com</a>                         |
| Barry Keaveny, N2NVP     | Past President | <a href="mailto:keavbv@msn.com">keavbv@msn.com</a>                             |
| Chuck Martin, KA4CEM     | Director       | <a href="mailto:chuck33@tampabay.rr.com">chuck33@tampabay.rr.com</a>           |

**HAPPY 4TH EVERYONE**  
**GOD BLESS AMERICA**