

Published for members and friends of the...



Spring Hill
Amateur Radio
Club

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Howdy SHARC Members,

April is here and so is Summer, this means that staying hydrated and covering all exposed skin becomes more important than ever. April also means more outside activities for us, the Amateur radio hobbyist. Field day is rapidly approaching, and our F.D. Coordinator Bruce W3BMK is hard at work getting things in line for June. Andrew KA3DNC is hard at work getting a plan of action together to first get our 70 cm repeater up and going followed by improving our 2m repeaters antenna on top of Oak Hill Hospital.

Bruce W3BMK has also volunteered to start up our SKYWARN activities once again, so we will discuss this at our next meeting on April 17th, 2025.

I would like to remind everyone that we have decided to move our start time for our monthly meetings back to 6:30 pm. We will use the added 30 minutes (6:30-7:00) to have any snacks and social interactions thus allowing for our main meeting to begin at 7:00 pm. This will allow us to close the meeting by 8:00 pm and be out the door allowing our host to get home to their families.

If anyone has any suggestions, ideas, input, and/or feedback please feel free to contact me directly by sending an email to President@Springhillarc.org. As always, my phone is always working and on and I am always monitoring the 805. Have a great April.

Earl Brannon K4EEB
President SHARC
Email: President@Springhillarc.org

INSIDE:

- **PLEASE PROVIDE FEEDBACK!**
- **DUES REMINDER**

SHARC Repeater Information

Repeaters are open to all licensed amateurs...membership not required but we sure would like you to join!
2 Meter: 146.805 MHz-600K no tone
70 CM: 443.800 MHz + 5M no tone
SSTV @ 6:30 PM Tuesday*
SHARCnet @ 7:30 PM Tuesday*
70 cm Ragchew Net - Mon. @ 7:00** PM**

SHARC Meetings Information

Regular monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month.
UF/IFAS Ext. Bldg.
16110 Aviation Loop-Next to P.O.
Please use side door.
Visitors are always welcome!
Meetings begin at 7:00 PM.
Stop by early and say, "Hi!"

Watch out for April Fools Day

THE ARRL DOES NOTHING FOR ME...



By
James Kvochick
K8JK

There is seldom an amateur radio event that happens without someone mentioning they are not joining the ARRL, because “they do nothing for me”. If I’m in an inquisitive mood, I will ask them if they can name 5 things that the ARRL does.... sometimes they make it to three or four. Be sure and share this with everyone, ARRL members or not.

Background



Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim and Clarence D. Tuska, the original purpose was to create a documented network of relay stations to assist in furthering communications and amateur radio information. The awesome power of this was demonstrated in 1917 when a message was passed from New York to Los Angeles and an answer received in about an hour and 20 minutes. Yes, this was completed with CW – the original “digital mode”.

Today the ARRL is the primary representative organization of amateur radio operators to the US government. It performs this function by lobbying the US Congress and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Additionally, the ARRL serves as secretariat of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) which performs similar lobbying activities before the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the World Administrative Radio Conferences (WARC).

Most of the operations of the ARRL are supported by a minimal paid staff, who function under the longer-term direction of 15 member elected board members, who are each backed up by an assistant board member. The directors are also responsible for appointing the executive team that runs the day-to-day operations of the league. Volunteers at several levels even within the headquarters location take on many tasks.

The divisions are divided up into sections. Each of the 71 ARRL sections are led by a volunteer Section Manager (SM), who is elected by their membership. The SM will most likely appoint several others to their team to fulfill various positions (Assistant Section Managers (ASM), Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) and others). There is a popular misconception that SMs report to Division Directors, and although many division leads seek data from the Section Managers in their area, Section Managers are connected directly to the ARRL Field Organization, and to the ARRL Field Services Manager.

Like most non-profit organizations, the ARRL financial support is rooted in dues, donations, endowments, and the selling of various related products (books, branded items, etc.).



ARRL Headquarters, Newington, CT



What Is The ARRL Doing For Me?

Here's my short list of what the ARRL is up to. Feel free to fill me in on what I've missed.

Advocacy Programs

- PRB-1 and Antenna Protection Legislation
- Lobbies for spectrum protection from intruders
- Continued lobbying for additional frequencies
- Represents the interest of US amateurs at the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)
- FCC Rules Enforcement – education, Amateur Auxiliary and Official Observer programs

ARRL Laboratory

- Technical Information Service
- Testing and reporting of new equipment
- RFI assistance
- Social media programming

W1AW Station

- Training and Bulletins
- Operating “studios” for visiting amateur radio operators

Volunteer Exam Coordinator (VEC)

- Supports the activities of many Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams who license or upgrade amateur radio operators

Publications

- QST – Monthly journal of amateur radio
- QEX – Bi-monthly journal of advanced amateur radio experimentation
- NCJ – Bi-monthly National Contest Journal
- On The Air – Bi-monthly publication explaining topics especially targeted at new amateur radio operators
- ARRL Handbook – reference of many amateur radio topics updated annually
- ARRL Antenna Handbook – the one stop source for antenna design and building information
- More than 150 other manuals and books on a wide range of topics related to amateur radio and complementary technologies

QSL & Logging Support

- Incoming and Outgoing traditional QSL card support
- LOTW – Logbook Of The World – electronic support for contacts made everywhere

Training and Outreach

- Training courses and material for all amateur radio license classes currently offered from the FCC
- ARRL Teachers Institute – program to aid in education of qualified academic instructors who may be integrating amateur radio in various programs
- Volunteer Instructors – supporting instructor volunteers in many geographies
- ARRL Outreach program – supporting youth groups and schools
- ARRL Foundation – Scholarship awards



Public Service

National Traffic System (NTS) – One of the core values that is still exercised when traditional communications channels may not be optimal

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) – Amateur radios' unique blend of abilities and resources blended into many public agencies

Emcomm education – continued education and training in support of the public agencies amateur radio can serve.

Public Service Honor Roll – local and national recognition of those amateur radio operators who serve in many of these volunteer roles

Volunteer Services

Volunteer Counsel Program – helping to track and sometimes educate about local ordinances that may not serve the best interest of the public and the amateur radio community

Volunteer Consulting Engineer Program – assistance ARRL members who may need help in meeting structural requirements in local zoning issues

Technical Specialists – volunteers who bring their expertise in helping fellow amateurs resolve tough detailed challenges

RF Safety Committee – helping members sort out and document RF safety issues

Electromagnetic Compatibility Committee – reviewing and advising on both devices that might be interfered with or to amateur radio operation

On The Air Awards

DXCC – Awards for communications with 100 countries

WAS – Worked All States – contacts with all US states

WAS – Worked All Sections – contacts with all ARRL sections

VUCC – VHF/UHF Century Club – award given for a minimum number of Maidenhead grid location contacts per band

A-1 Operator – Not just about the equipment, but also about how you utilize your amateur station

Triple Play – confirmed communication with all US states on Voice, CW, and Digital modes

Fred Fish Memorial Award – This award created to honor the achievement of W5FF for working stations in all 488 Maidenhead grid squares in the contiguous United States

Morse Code Proficiency - evaluate morse code ability

Mentor Award – recognizing the individuals who help in a positive way

First Contact Award – acknowledging your first on the air experience

Contests

Straight Key Night – sending (and hopefully) receiving stations that are not using anything but a traditional telegraph key

Kids Day – getting young people on the air

RTTY Roundup – another mode for transmitting text messages

VHF and UHF contests – January VHF, June VHF, 222 MHz and up, 23GHz and up

EME (Earth Moon Earth) contests – EME 23GHz and up, EME 50MHz to 1296 MHz

IARU HF World – special callsigns for IARU member Societies

Field Day – operations from many types of locations

School Club Roundups – increased awareness of amateur radio club stations in schools

Rookie Roundup – A contest targeting amateur radio operators licensed 3 years or less

160 and 10 meter contests – challenging operators on both a traditional low and high HF bands



It should be apparent that the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has expanded their scope just a little from the days of Hiram & Clarence, and why I'm surprised that many amateurs can't name more than 3 or 4 things on what appears to be quite a list.

Visit ARRL Headquarters

You can really get the sense of how the ARRL runs by scheduling a visit. Details about this are on the ARRL website (<https://www.arrl.org>). If you plan accordingly, you could even operate on one of the 4 "guest stations" there!

You also have the opportunity to enter the ARRL Sweepstakes Contest (until December 2025).



ARRL Guest Operating Position



Join us for **TARCFEST** **Spring Edition**

Saturday, April 12th

Gates Open at 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Setup for tailgaters begins at 7:00 am

Admission is \$ 5.00 per person

Children 12 & under FREE

TAILGATING IS FREE with Paid Admission

Inside Tables also available for \$15.00 ea.

**TARC Grill serving GREAT
Food & Drinks
Renew TARC Membership
VE Testing after event**

**Tampa Amateur Radio
Club Located:
7801 N. 22nd Street;
Tampa, FL 33610**


Spring Hill Amateur Radio Club

KF4IXU



April 2025

An ARRL Affiliated Club - Northern Florida Section

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NCO Greg Anderson KO0R		Apr 1 SSTV 6:30 PM SHARC Net 7:30 p.m.	2 COFFEE @ HARDEES CORNER OF US 19 & CORTEZ 7:30 AM	3	4	5
6	7 SHARK TEK CHEW 7:00 PM	8 SSTV 6:30 PM	9 COFFEE @ HARDEES CORNER OF US 19 & CORTEZ 7:30 AM	10	11	12 Ladies Lunch Is Discontinued
13 NCO Kal Ribianszky KN4LKL	14 SHARK TEK CHEW 7:00 PM	15 SSTV 6:30 PM SHARC Net 7:30 p.m.	16 COFFEE @ HARDEES CORNER OF US 19 & COR- TEZ	17 SHARC Members Meeting 7:00 p.m. 	18 Fox Hunt Crews Lake Park 10:00 AM	19
20 NCO Sal Clascione N2UOG	21 SHARK TEK CHEW 7:00 PM	22 SSTV 6:30 PM SHARC Net 7:30 p.m.	23 COFFEE @ HARDEES CORNER OF US 19 & CORTEZ 7:30 AM	24	25	26
27 NCO Earl Brannon K4EEB	28 SHARK TEK CHEW 7:00 PM	29 SSTV 6:30 PM SHARC Net 7:30 p.m.	30 COFFEE @ HARDEES CORNER OF US 19 & CORTEZ 7:30 AM			

What is your suggestion for a luncheon, day, time, place?
Send your suggestion to newsletter@springhillarc.org

We Need your Feedback

Hi, I'm Jerry Sweet, editor for the SHARC newsletter. We need your ideas, information, and articles to help our newsletter grow. Please send them to newsletter@springhillarc.org or call me at 727-857-6204.



73's
Jerry
KO4RDI



Spring Hill
Amateur
Radio Club

SHARC would love to hear from you! Please refer to the following contact information:

President: Earn Brannon - KO4PBS@Gmail.com

Vice President: Bernie Bathauer - Bathauer@Gate.net

Treasurer: Wayne Boyd - KD4ERG@TampaBay.rr.com

Secretary: Carol Socash - CarolSocash@bellsouth.net

Director: Mike Hayes - Mike.Hayes317@Gmail.com

Repeaters: Larry Oaks - W9SX@outlook.com

YL Breakfast: Carol Socash - CarolSocash@bellsouth.net

Newsletter: Jerry Sweet - JSweet26@TampaBay.rr.com

Send Snail Mail to: SHARC, PO Box 6083, Spring Hill, FL 34611