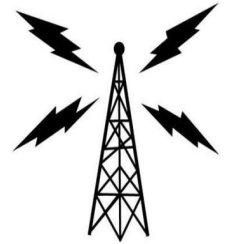




DFARG Signal



Incorporating Palmetto Amateur Radio Club

Winter Field Day

DFARG President John Miller announced that DFARG will participate in this year's Winter Field Day. Setup will begin at the DFARG shack at 1:00 PM on January 30. Winter Field Day officially kicks off at 1900 UTC (2:00 PM in Little Mountain). In keeping with the traditional spirit of field day, DFARG will operate a station at the Little Mountain gazebo. For those unwilling or not advised by their physician to brave the elements, stations will also be operated inside the shack, with HT comms between the two locations to coordinate band usage.

FT-920 Donated to DFARG



This Yaesu FT-920 was donated to DFARG by James Henson, W4UFP, in memory of his wife Jane, who formerly held callsign W4ONO. Robert Jenkins, KG4KGL, acting for Mr. Henson, delivered the radio to the DFARG. On behalf of the Board of Directors, and the rest of the membership of DFARG, President John Miller expresses his condolences to Mr. Henson for his loss and our sincere gratitude for his most generous gift in her memory.

2020 Club Contest Submission Deadline Extended

The deadline for submission of the number of calendar days in 2020 with at least one HF QSO has been extended through next month, as only two club members have submitted tallies thus far. There are restaurant gift certificates available for the top three club members. First prize, \$50 at Texas Road House, second and third prizes, \$25 at Shealy's BBQ. Please email your tally to dfarg.signal@gmail.com no later than Wednesday, February 17. Prizes will be awarded at the February meeting the following evening.

Volume 3, Issue 2

January 25, 2021

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March monthly meeting cancelled.

Winter Field Day

If you do not generally operate outside, away from fixed antennas and power sources, Field Day presents interesting operational challenges. Winter Field Day, even in the Southeast, can make those challenges even more interesting, and in some cases, even dangerous. The forecast for the Columbia are for this year's WFD period is partly to mostly cloudy with lows in the 40s. That may seem relatively mild, but while most cases of hypothermia occur at temperatures below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, it is not rare for people succumb to this life-threatening condition at temperatures above 60. Damp and windy conditions can bring about hypothermia in as little as 15-20 minutes even in mild temperatures, particularly for older people, or those who are very fatigued. To avoid hypothermia, remember the word COLD:

C-keep your clothing CLEAN

O-Avoid OVERHEATING which can make you wet with sweat

L-Wear your clothing LOOSELY and in LAYERS to maximize heat retention

D-Keep your clothing, and yourself as DRY as possible.

Frostbite, on the other hand. Does require air temperatures in the freezing or below freezing range. Body extremities, fingers, toes, and noses, are particularly susceptible. A classic cause of frostbit toes is the combination

of reduced circulation and freezing temperatures. Wearing an extra pair of socks may seem like a way to keep your feet warmer, but if that extra layer constricts circulation, you may end up with problems. In mildly cold conditions, a warm pair of gloves may be enough to keep your fingers warm, but in extreme cold, mittens are a better bet.

Protecting yourself from the elements can cause some technical challenges. While wearing gloves or mittens can you:

-Erect your antenna?

-String your counterpoise?

-Operate your radio?

-Work your key or paddle?

Another technical consideration is battery capacity. Battery life is extended at very low temperatures, but battery capacity drops. Lead-acid battery capacity can drop by 20% as the air temperature reaches freezing and by 50% at -22 degrees Fahrenheit. While research is still ongoing regarding the measured effect of cold



temperatures on lithium ion batteries, the overall effect is the same: lower temperatures mean lower capacity.

If you're using a lightweight, relatively small lithium battery in extreme cold, keeping the battery under your coat, against your skin or primary layer of clothing, is a great way to avoid this drop in capacity.

It's not expected to get extremely cold in the Midlands this year, and if you're operating in the Little Mountain gazebo, you can pop into the shack if the temps get uncomfortable. If you're headed north, or headed to higher elevations, however, keep these tips in mind to make your Winter Field Day memorable for the contacts you made, not for succumbing to an avoidable cold weather injury or equipment malfunction

Upcoming Regional Hamfests and Conventions

02/13/2021 - 02/14/2021
Online - Orlando HamCation Special Edition 2021
Location: Orlando, FL
<http://www.hamcation.com>

02/26/2021 - 02/27/2021 7th Annual TECHCON
Location: Winter Haven, FL
<http://arrlwc.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/>

03/19/2021 - 03/20/2021
PARC Hamfest
Location: Fort Walton Beach, FL
<http://w4zbb.org>

02/13/2021 - Treasure Coast Hamfest
Location: Vero Beach, FL
<http://treasurecoasthamfest.com>

02/27/2021 - Dalton Hamfest
Location: Dalton, GA
<https://www.facebook.com/events/624779201744768>

04/17/2021 - AJARC Hamfest 2021
Location: Greenville, TN
<https://greenvillehamfest.com/>

02/20/2021 - Brooksville Hamfest
Location: Brooksville, FL
<http://hcara.org>

03/06/2021 - Charlotte County Hamfest
Location: Punta Gorda, FL
<http://PRRA.club>

04/24/2021 - Savannah Area Swap Meet Hamfest
Location: Savannah, GA
http://coastalamateurradiosociety.net/wpW4LHSblog/?page_id=1001

Regional Net Schedule

All Times in Eastern Time Zone

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------|--|
| | South Carolina SSB Net 1900 3.915 | | | | | | |
| | Coastal Carolina Emergency Net 1900 3.907 | | | | | | |
| | South Coast Amateur Radio Service 0800-1100 7.251 | | | | | | |
| | Intercontinental Amateur Traffic Net 0700-1100 14.300 | | | | | | |
| | Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network 1100 14.265 | | | | | | |
| | 7240 Club 1000-1200 7.240 | | | | | | |
| | | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| | | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| | | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| 1930 | | Little Mountain 147.210 + T156.7 | | | | | |
| 2000 | | Kershaw ARC 146.775 - T156.7 | Sandlapper SSB 50.250 | | Calhoun ARES 146.670 - T 156.7 | | |
| 2030 | Columbia ARC 147.33 + T 156.7 | | Lexington ARES 147.000 + T123.0 | Columbia ARC 147.33 + T 156.7 | | | |
| 2100 | Ridge ARC 146.550 Simplex | | | | Greenwood 147.165 + T 107.2 | | Ridge ARC First Saturday 3.959 |
| | Ridge ARC 147.255 + T123.0 after simplex | | | | | | |

January 18, 2021 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 1900

New President John Miller asked about 2020 Club Contest results. No responses had been received, deadline for submission extended to next meeting. Winter Field Day is weekend of 30 January, club will operate from the shack, as well as from a true field day location in the Little Mountain town gazebo, VP Bruce Frost proposed a second 2021 club contest in which members attempt to make QSO with other club members throughout the year, details to be announced.

Donation of an FT-920, Robert Jenkins, KG4KGL brought the radio James A. Henson W4UFP 1 Cassia Court Columbia 29209 donated in memory of his wife Jane H. Henson, SK W4ONO. John Miller made a short presentation about wireless power generation on the microwave band in New Zealand.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

Upcoming Contests

January

26 [Worldwide Sideband](#)

February

6 [Eurasia HF](#)

[Minnesota QSOP](#)

6-7 [Mexico RTTY Internatl.](#)

[British Columbia QSOP](#)

[European Union DX](#)

13-14 [Hamcation QSOP](#)

14 [Balkan HF](#)

20-21 [ARRL Intl. DX CW](#)

27-28 [South Carolina QSOP](#)

Ham Humor



Winter Field Day overachiever

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.W4DFG.ORG

Upcoming DXpeditions:

For more information go to <https://www.ng3k.com/>

| Start | End | DXCC | Call | Info |
|-------|-------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Jan07 | Feb11 | Niger | 5UAIHM | 40 20m; CW |
| Jan08 | Jan31 | Svalbard | JWLB2PG | ear I (IOTA EU-027); 80-20m; SSB |
| Jan08 | Jan28 | Greenland | OXSE3A | Narsarsuaq (GP71gd); 40 20m |
| Jan09 | Jan26 | Bolivia | CP1XRM | HF; SSB + digital |
| Jan09 | Jan30 | Dominican Republic | HI9/F5PLR | Las Terrenas; HF; mainly CW |
| Jan13 | Jan30 | Greenland | OX3LX | asiilaq I (IOTA NA-151, HP15eo); HF |
| Jan21 | Feb06 | Guadeloupe | FG/F5HRY | Marie Galante I; 80-10m, focus on 30 17m; CW |
| Jan25 | Feb07 | Maldives | 8Q7AO | Vilamendhoo I; mainly OQ-100 |
| Feb11 | Feb20 | Togo | 5VDE | Kara; 40 20m; FT8 (also QO-100); 100w |
| Feb15 | Feb28 | Wake I | NL7RR/KH9 | HF; SSB |
| Feb24 | Mar02 | Monaco | 3A/F4FRL;3A/ F5RBB | 40-20m; SSB + digital |
| Feb27 | Mar27 | Sint Maarten | PJ7AA | IOTA NA-105; 80-10m; CW SSB FT8 |
| Mar06 | Mar22 | Maldives | 8Q7CQ | IOTA AS-013; 80-10m, 60m; SSB/digital/CW |