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The
ANTENNA

The Brandon Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

OVER 41 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE BRANDON AREA
BRANDON, FLORIDA, USA

VOL XLV, NUMBER 4 APRIL 2018

Come to the Club Meeting Thursday April 19th

Come out to the meeting this month at Arise Brandon Assembly of God 710 South Kings Avenue in the Annex. Things get underway at 7:30 p.m. when Scott bangs the gavel to start things off.

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Fox Hunting is the Program for April

In Ham Radio parlance direction finding is also known as “fox hunting”. In this month’s program we will cover the basics of fox hunting and find out what that “fox” really is as well as discuss a few methods used to find the allusive critter. Using easily constructed antennas or inexpensive kit projects to detect a fox for fun or find an unwanted signal source (repeater jamming) for real will be demonstrated. This also has possibilities for search and rescue, too! If we generate enough interest in the membership, an antenna building session could be scheduled followed by different types of fox hunting events for club participation.



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BARS Hams Participate in Florida State Parks On The Air!



BARS members participated in the second iteration of Florida State Parks on the air during the first weekend in April 2018. This hardy group was out in the field doing ham radio and having a great time. Enjoy the pix!

This event was started by a group of amateur radio operators from central Florida who love to get out and operate portable in our beautiful home state, with these goals:

- Promote public awareness of Ham Radio and Florida’s state park system.

- Contribute to the recognition and appreciation of Florida’s diverse ecology.
- Encourage camaraderie and sportsmanship among Florida’s Amateur Radio Operators.
- Provide a venue for Florida hams to get outside and enjoy operating in the great outdoors.

This state has an award winning State Park system featuring more than 170 park sites, including cultural centers, archeological digs, Civil War-era forts, wildlife preserves, and recreational areas – not to mention beaches! Check out the site at floridastateparks.org for information on camping, educational materials, maps of the parks, and a complete list of parks organized by region.



While this is a fun event, participating in this activity also provides valuable experience in operating under conditions that are much different than the usual day-to-day hamming operations in the home station. This translates into experience is station set-up and operation which is extremely valuable during times of emergency.

Worked All Florida State Parks

Did you ever wish that there was a way to stretch out the fun and work Florida

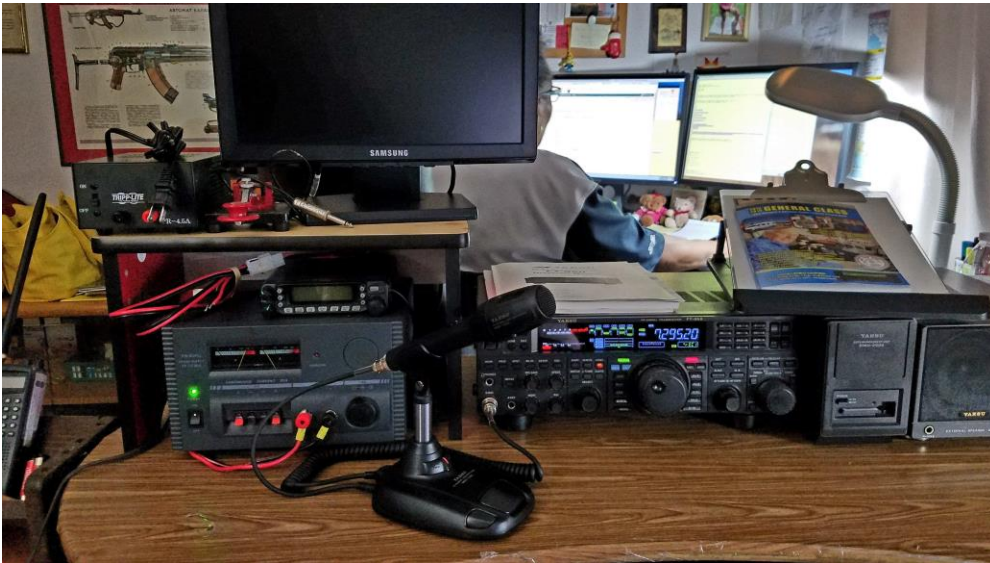
State Parks all year long? Well, there is! They have the **Florida State Parks Chaser** awards for those chase and contact all of the qualifying Florida State Parks, and accompanying Florida State Parks Activator awards for those who have activated all of the qualifying Florida State Parks. This is intended to be a year-round addition to the Florida State Parks On The Air contest which happens the first Saturday in April. That way you DON’T have to make all your contacts for the Activator and Chaser awards during the April contest period.



More Ham Shack PIX

In just about every issue we have this line in the box about the nets: **Send us your articles AND PICTURES! We do much more in the digital format! I would like to have pictures of BARS members and their ham shacks!**

Well, this time we have some great shack pictures from Randy Lee showing us the Operations Center at KN4JOC.



A Revolution in Social Media -Postponed-

Because of all the other great material, I have decided to postpone the article that will REVOLUTIONIZE communication by social media. Watch for it in the May issue of *The ANTENNA*!

That's it for this month. Have fun with radio!

Keep in Mind Our Weekly Nets and Bulletins

Monday 8 p.m. The Two Meter Net 147.765 - 147.165 MHz Hosted by Doris Haskell WB9VDT

Tuesday 7 p.m. 6-meter Roundtable 50.200 MHz USB followed at 8 p.m. with the 10 Meter Roundtable 28.365 MHz USB

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Remember to check out the BARS website:

brandonhamradio.org