

The Brandon Amateur Radio Society Newsletter
Over 43 years of service to the Brandon Area
Brandon, Florida USA

**Brandon Amateur
Radio Society**

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KM4DTJ

Vice President
Ron Perrett
K4FZU

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WF4AC

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Art Powers
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Bill Johnson (WJ4G)

Director
Dick Capell (KJ6HNV)

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Scott Irwin (W8UFD)

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Nancy Lessard (KM4WMD)

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Help tell the club's story...YOUR story! Submit an article today.

2021 Officers Elected—THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

Scott Irwin (W8UFD)

At our November meeting the club elected officers and board members to serve in calendar year 2021. Their terms begin on January 1, 2021.

President: Steve Maslin (NS4M, Extra Class)



My favorite things about being a ham are:

The ability to make far away contacts via the air-waves. Whether that means using an HT or Mobile rig through a repeater to talk to others in the region, or an HF rig to talk around the world.

The ability to make a difference when it comes to emer-

gency communication. During an emergency, cell phones, trunked radio systems, etc. can all fail. Ham radio doesn't fail and doesn't require expensive infrastructure or dependent systems to run.

I was first licensed in 1993 as N3ORH. Changed to NS4M in March 2019 after obtaining my Extra in 2018.

Vice President: Ron Perrett (K4FZU, Extra Class)



My favorite things about being a ham are: home-brewing,

antennas, CW operations. I also enjoy photography, and being a pilot.

I have been a ham for 58 years.

Treasurer: Wayne Thomas (KM7WDT, General Class)



I enjoy doing field communications for events. I also enjoy working FT-8 on HF and have completed over

700 QSO's from central Russia to the east to Hong Kong to the west. I have earned "Worked All State" on FT-8. I am interested in doing voice on HF. I have been a member of ARES in Monterey CA.

I received my Tech ticket in January 2017 and my General in June 2017.

Secretary: Open

Board Members

Kelly Anderson (KE4GS) 2021-2022
Tony Stone (N4TAS) Rpt. Trustee
Bill Johnson (WJ4G) 2019-2021
Dana Perrin (KM4DTJ) Past President

No December Meeting...See you in January!

Dana Perrin (KM4DTJ)

Due to the Holidays, we will not hold a meeting in December. The virtual coffee hours will continue, and you are encouraged to join them.

The January meeting will be virtual because Golden Corral is unable to accept reservations for a group of our size due to COVID-19 space requirements.

Join us for a business meeting and technical program!

If you have program ideas or topics you would like covered please reach out to Ron Perrett (K4FZU).

We thank all who volunteered to assist the club in 2020! Your efforts make the club a great place to belong to!

Next Meeting

January 21, 2021

7:30 PM

This meeting is virtual.

Register [here](#).

Tell a Friend!



It has been my sincere pleasure to serve as your President this year.

From The President's Desk

Dana Perrin (KM4DTJ)

As the year comes to a close, I have just a few comments.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WE WILL NOT HAVE A MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN DECEMBER. Watch your email for info regarding our January meeting.

We still need to fill two very important Van Leadership positions: Co-Chair for Fundraising and Team Leader for the Community Activities Team. The work of these individuals will be critical to the success of the Van (MARV) in 2021 and beyond. Please let me know if you would be interested in one of these positions or if you would like further information.

At the request of several of our members, we have set up a

PayPal account for BARS. I thank Jim Moorehead and JR Calvert for making this happen. We are working to set up our corporation to receive donations from the AmazonSmile program. We are also in the process of updating the BARS web site. I thank JR Calvert, Jim Moorehead, and Scott Irwin for their great ideas and web-site-related skills.

At our November membership meeting, we voted on a slate of Officers and a Board Member for 2021. This is highlighted in the front page article. I thank everyone for their participation in this event.

Finally, as I write this and as I look at the CDC website, it's clear that the Covid virus will likely be around for a while. For the foreseeable future, we will continue

with Zoom virtual meetings and I for one will still be very cautious and will continue to follow the guidelines for social distancing, hand washing, and mask wearing.

It has been my sincere pleasure to serve as your President this year. Please give our new President, Steve Maslin, your full support.

Please accept my very best wishes for Happy Holidays.

"Joy can only be real if people look upon their life as a service and have a definite object in life outside themselves and their personal happiness."

- Leo Tolstoy -

BARS Member Wins Tampa Bay Hamfest Volunteer Raffle

Fred Hendershot (N3BUL)

Janet Watts (KB4PUM), a member of the [Brandon Amateur Radio Society \(BARS\)](#), was the recipient of the \$50.00 drawing held for Volunteers at the [Tampa Bay Hamfest](#).

Each volunteer was given a ticket for each hour worked, the tickets were put in a container, and the winning ticket was withdrawn by Acting Treasurer Jim Wedlake (KD4MZL).

Volunteer Coordinator Fred Hendershot (N3BUL) presented the \$50.00 check to Janet during a Monday evening gathering at Dunkin (950 Lumsden Road in Brandon). This year we had 8 volunteers who worked a total of 40 hours. Thank you all!



Janet Watts (KB4PUM) receives a volunteer raffle award from Fred Hendershot (N3BUL). Photo by Karissa Hendershot (N3YDA)

S.S. American Victory Tours Complete

Ron Perrett (K4FZU)

Throughout the month of December, the S.S. American Victory hosted numerous BARS members, giving them the chance to tour the ship, see the radio room, and have a fun time in the process.

Just like last month, here is some truth in advertising. Recall that the club meeting announcement back in February, included the proposal that BARS (as a club) adopt one of the Officer's

Cabin areas to maintain it. Think of those adopt-a-road segment signs you see along the highway from various groups. The ship is people and cash worthy in every way, so the proposal means a lot for support and recognition. Also recall, that I am proposing in like manner to the other major clubs in our area. My goal is that Tampa Bay area Hams identify with and support the Officers Deck. My pitch and offer is to BARS first.

If you would like to help maintain this important piece of history...and maybe operate from the radio room once in a while, contact me to be part of the BARS/ship maintenance action team.

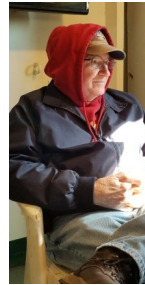


Photo courtesy of Ron Perrett (K4FZU)



Nancy Lessard (KM4WMD). Archive photo courtesy of Nancy Lessard



Antennas and more atop the ship. Photo courtesy of Ron Perrett (K4FZU)



L to R: Dana Perrin (KM4DTJ), Fred Hendershot (N3BUL), Karissa Hendershot (N3YDA), and Wayne Thomas (KM7WDT). Photo courtesy of Dana Perrin



Ken Watts (WA4NSV), Karen Jacobi (K4KZF), and Rick Far (KK4CVD) learn about the ship. Photo courtesy of Ron Perrett (K4FZU)



Photo courtesy of Ron Perrett (K4FZU)

Upcoming Club Events

- > December 23, 2020 Virtual Coffee Hour 7:30 PM Online. Register [here](#) (one registration works for all instances).
- > December 30, 2020 Virtual Coffee Hour 7:30 PM Online. Register [here](#) (one registration works for all instances).
- > January 06, 2021 Virtual Coffee Hour 7:30 PM Online. Register [here](#) (one registration works for all instances).
- > January 13, 2021 Virtual Coffee Hour 7:30 PM Online. Register [here](#) (one registration works for all instances).
- > January 14, 2021 BARS Club Meeting 7:30 PM Online. Register [here](#) (one registration works for all monthly meetings).
- > Mondays, 8 PM ET VHF Net (147.165 MHz)
- > Tuesdays, 7 PM ET 6 Meter Roundtable (50.200 MHz USB)
- > Tuesdays, 8 PM ET 10 Meter Roundtable (28.365 MHz USB)
- > Fridays, 7 PM ET 80 Meter Roundtable (3.830 MHz LSB)

Winter Field Day Cancelled

Richard Jones (KW4MB)

I have decided to cancel the Winter Field Day in my backyard for January 30. Our COVID-19 numbers are just too high. If conditions improve this event could happen, so watch your e-mail and this newsletter for updates.



The Brandon Amateur Radio Society (BARS) has been serving Brandon, Valrico, Mango, Seffner, Palm River, Gibsonton, Riverview, and the East Tampa area for over 43 years providing public service and emergency preparedness communications, license classes, license exams, and radio operator training programs.

It is easy to help us financially or pay your dues...click on the graphic below!



Our Repeaters

147.165 MHz (+ offset, 136.5 Hz PL Tone, Analog FM) - N4DLW-R Echolink Node
443.500 MHz (+ Offset, 127.3 Hz PL Tone, Analog FM, C4FM) - N4DLW/R Wires X



Thank you to the members and staff of Arise for your kindness In allowing BARS the use of their facility!



Brandon Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is a registered Florida Non-Profit Corporation

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<http://www.brandonhamradio.org/>



<https://fb.me/brandonhamradio>



Donate / Pay Dues



<https://twitter.com/brandonhamradio>

MARV Work Continues

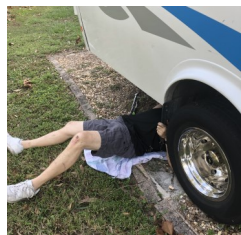
Scott Irwin (W8UFD)

Work continues to transform the van to the Mobile Amateur Radio Vehicle. Skip Argoe (KD4IDF) and Rodney Biddle (KX4HD) removed all seats in the van and discovered that the factory-installed plywood flooring needs to be replaced due to water intrusion.

Photos by Dick Hoff (AASNT)



Prior to the floor replacement, areas of water intrusion need to be discovered and fixed. Skip has found two areas that need attention—the area around the rear exit door and around the windows. He has done preliminary repair cost estimates.



Skip is looking for more hands to address the water intrusion and replace the floor. Watch your e-mail and this newsletter for more details. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Skip.



Hamfests & Coventions

CANCELLED - 01/23/2021

DeSoto County Hamfest
Arcadia, FL

[More Information](#)

CANCELLED - 02/11/2021 - 02/14/2021

Orlando Hamcathon
Orlando, FL

[More Information](#)

02/26/2021 - 02/27/2021

7th Annual TECHCON - ARRL West
Central Florida Section Technical Conference
Winter Haven, FL

ARRL West Central Florida Section

[More information](#)

03/06/2021 - Charlotte County Hamfest

Location: Punta Gorda, FL

[More Information](#)

Note: Due to the COVID-19 outbreak some hamfests and conventions may be cancelled or have specific rules/regulations in place. Please check with the sponsoring organization for status.



Submit your articles & photos for the next edition of *The Antenna* by January 07, 2021!

Send electronic submissions to
w8ufo (at) arrl (dot) net