



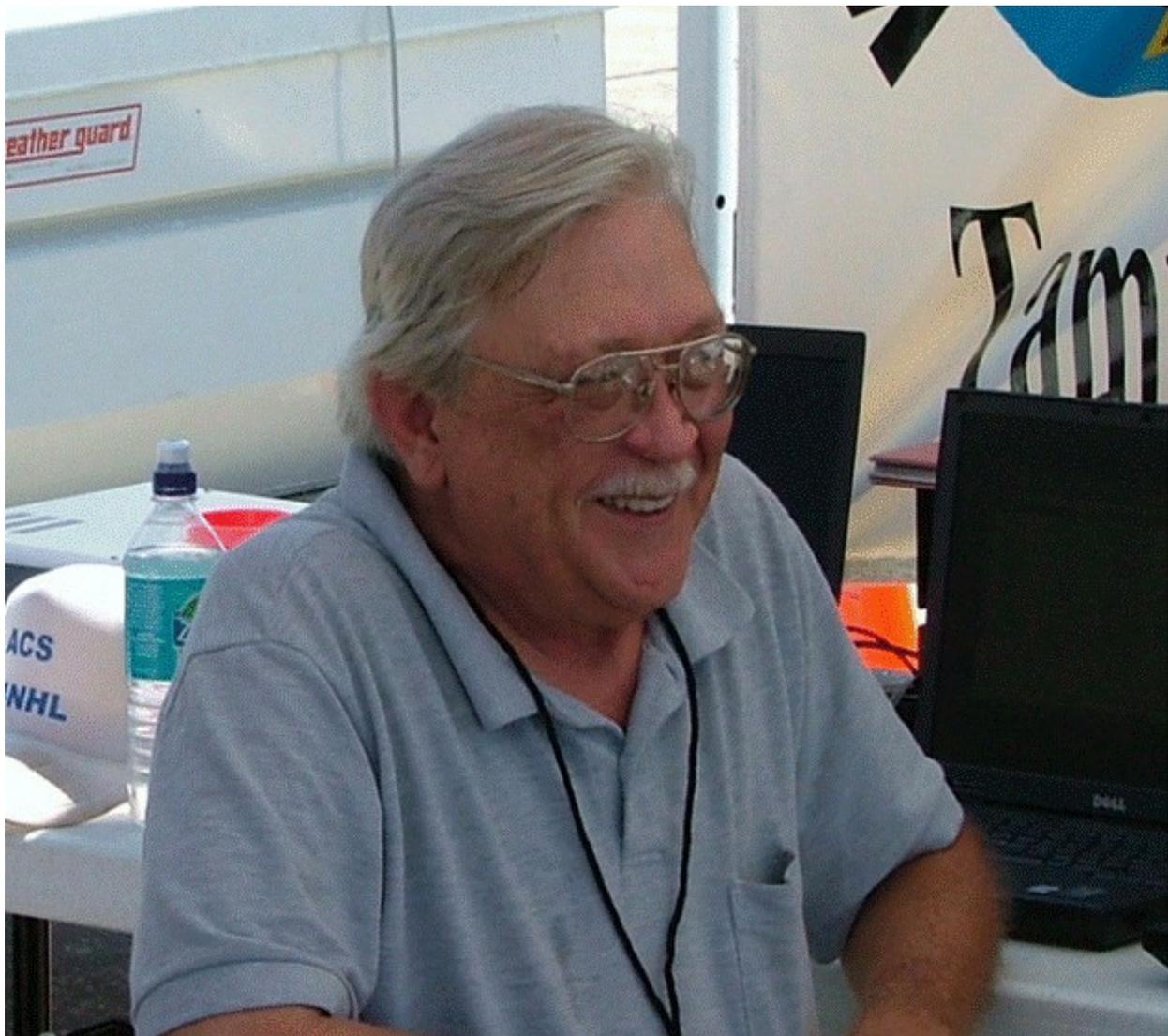
News from



**The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE**

**November 2017**

**Hello Worms**



Neil Lauritsen W4NHL, AFA4TF, NCS044, (Ex NNN0TFH) passed away at his home on Friday October 13.

Neil has been a Wormhole member since at least 1995. He was a long time amateur radio leader, adviser and coach, particularly related to emergency communications. He was the Emergency Coordinator for Pinellas County and the West Central Florida Section. A long time MARS member filling several positions including State Director for Navy MARS until the program was closed. He was the Regional Director for SHARES Southeast Region.  
I miss you Neil.

The five day weather forecast is usually wrong but they are predicting a high of 84 and sunny so it sounds like a perfect morning for club meeting.

The SPARCFest is only a week away and then the Tampa Bay Hamfest and Section convention in Dec 8 & 9.

Talk-in is on the Wormhole repeater system. For those coming to the meeting who cannot hit the repeater we will also monitor the Honeywell club repeater on 443.050 +141.3. Bring a folding chair if you have one.

### **\* A LITTLE ABOUT DTMF \***

By Ralph WD0EJA

This technology has been with us for over 50 years. It must be good, because we are still using it. You will see it on many of our VHF and UHF transceivers. It is used to control repeaters and many other remote devices.

Dual Tone Multi-Frequency, or DTMF. Also know as "Touch-Tone". The later term was given by Bell Labs back in the 1960's.

Before this was developed, remote equipment normally was hard wired to control it. This technology allowed the elimination of the wires. The tones could be transmitted over the radio to control devices.

To start, the tones are produced by an "Encoder". During the early start of this technology, it took a fairly complicated circuit. However, now, one small integrated circuit does it all.

What does the circuit do?

It produces two audio tones for each number, 0 - 9. As well as the # and \* key. By using two tones together, the reliability or accuracy is excellent.

Two tones are sent at the same time. One high tone and one lower tone. A chart of the tones per its number is below.

So, how do you differentiate the tones in respect to the number?

With a "Decoder". Again, in the early stages, it took a circuit for each pair of tones. Now an integrated circuit does it all. Normally the IC will produce a hexadecimal output for each number. This reduces the amount of outputs you need for all 12 combinations.

Here are the tones for 0 - 9 and \* and #.

LOW (VERTICALLY)	HIGH TONE (HORIZONTALLY)		
	1290 HZ	1336 HZ	1477 HZ
697 HZ	1	2	3
770 HZ	4	5	6
852 HZ	7	8	9
941 HZ	*	0	#

Experimenting with DTMF is within the scope of the average hobbyist. At least you have an idea of what is happening every time you push that button.

73,

Ralph WD0EJA

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

**\* AMAZON WANTS YOUR KEYS \***

*INFOPACKETS* by John Lister on October, 26 2017

Amazon wants customers to let couriers have an electronic key to get inside customer homes for deliveries. The Amazon Key program also appears to be a way to promote customers buying security cameras and smart locks.

The Amazon Key feature is only available to customers in the Amazon Prime subscription program, which includes free home delivery and access to streaming video. They'll also need a compatible camera and smart lock, with Amazon bundling the two devices together for \$250 including installation. The smart lock technology can be added

to an existing standard deadbolt, meaning a physical door key will still work.

As is already available with such equipment from other users can give permanent or one-off access to unlock the door, as well as reviewing video. Amazon advises placing the camera inside the home facing the doorway.

With Amazon Key, the user won't have to give access to a specific individual courier. Instead, the courier uses a mobile device such as a smartphone, then scans the barcode on a package when they are at the doorstep. Amazon remotely confirms the delivery is legitimate (since the delivery was already scheduled in their database), at which point the courier can swipe their phone screen to unlock the door and put the package inside. They then swipe again as they leave to relock the door.

The customer will then get an alert and be able to review the video of the delivery on their own mobile device or even watch it live. They'll also get confirmation the door was relocked.

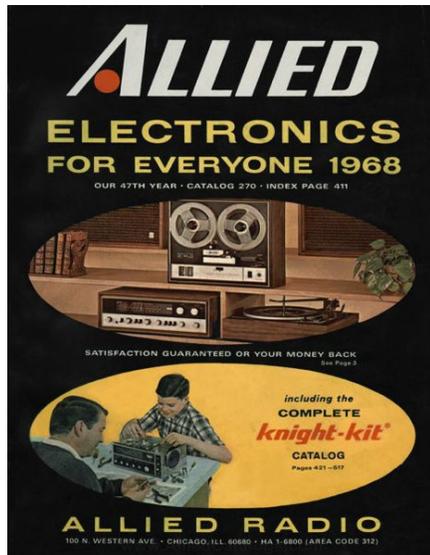
The theory is that the service is more convenient and also safer than having to leave a door unlocked or give somebody a physical key, which they could make a copy of. For now Amazon is only going to use the service with couriers it directly employs and says they are "thoroughly vetted, with comprehensive background checks and motor vehicle records reviews." (Source: [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))

In the long term, Amazon wants to work with home service provider businesses, such as dog walkers and cleaners to authorize staff to use the locks. That will make it possible to book a service through the company without needing to arrange access for a specific individual staff member.

**\* CATALOGS ARE ABOUT POSSIBILITIES \***

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

When I was a kid, I used to regularly get catalogs, such as the Allied Radio and Lafayette Radio catalogs shown below, and pore over them for hours. Even if I couldn't



afford to buy the latest Knight-Kit or Lafayette shortwave radio, I could imagine what it would be like. These catalogs were chock full of possibilities. So, you can imagine how I felt when, last Thursday, I found both the Autumn/Winter 2017 DX Engineering catalog and the 2018-2019 Newark Electronics/element14 catalog in my mailbox.

[DX Engineering](#) has really taken the amateur radio world by storm over the last ten years or so. I probably don't have to tell you about that. If you're an active amateur radio operator, I'm sure that you have heard about—and probably ordered from—DX Engineering. I think that DX Engineering did a very smart thing by investing the money in a print catalog. There's something about browsing a print catalog that is just more satisfying than browsing online. DX Engineering has just about everything you need to have fun with amateur radio. The one glaring omission? They still don't carry my study guides!

The [Newark/element14 2018-2019 catalog](#) is a completely different beast. Amateur radio operators are only a small part of Newark/element14's market, but one nonetheless. They have, for example, attended the Dayton Hamvention for many years. As such, the catalog is not a "ham radio" catalog, but if you build stuff at all you'll find something of interest in its 1,799 pages. It includes nearly any kind of electronic part that you might need. The section that might you might want to start with is the "makerspace" section. In this section, you'll find Raspberry Pis, BeagleBones, and even micro:bits. They really have everything, though, including passive and active components, connectors, cable, and enclosures.

Like I say, these catalogs are all about possibilities. You can search each company's website and find the parts they carry quickly and easily, but that experience is just not the same as browsing a print catalog and daydreaming about what you might find there.

So, get your own copies—they're free—and page through them. I'd be surprised if you didn't run across something that you didn't know about before, and it gave you some ideas about your next amateur radio project.

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## \*CLUB MEETING\*

The next club meeting is November 4<sup>th</sup>. We meet on the first Saturday every month at 11:00 Saturday morning at the Minnreg Building located at 6340 126th Ave N, Largo. Talk-in is on the Wormhole repeater system. For those coming to the meeting who cannot hit the repeater we will be monitoring the Honeywell club repeater on 443.050 +141.3. We will keep an eye peeled for you. We will take advantage of the cooking facilities with an after-the-meeting Social and Wormdog picnic.

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## \*CLUB NETS\*

Check in on the club net Thursdays at 1930. 442.625 + with a 146.2 tone or the 2M side at 146.850 – also with a tone of 146.2. We are always looking for volunteers to be the net control operator. Anyone interested, talk to one your club officers.

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## \*LOCAL NETS\*

### MONDAY

1730 147.030 + Receiver sites and tone info <http://www.qsl.net/wd4scd/>

St Pete Yacht Club ARC

St Petersburg

1830 147.060+ no tone

St Pete ARC daily net

St

Petersburg

1900 144.210 USB

CARS, vertical polarization

Clearwater

1900 147.135 +146.2

Zephyrhills ARC

Zephyrhills

2000 147.165+ 136.5

Brandon ARS

from

Brandon

2000 50.135

Pinellas ARK

Pinellas

County

2030 NI4CE system

EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net, NI4CE system

2030 145.450

Pinellas ARK

Pinellas

County

### TUESDAY

1830 147.060 no tone

St Pete ARC daily net

from St

Petersburg		
1900 50.200 USB	6M net	Brandon
ARS		
1900 28.450	WCF section net	Clearwater
1900 NI4CE system	WCF Section VHF ARES	NI4CE
system		
1930 145.170 & 442.4 both pl 156.7	Pinellas ACS net	Clearwater
1930 444.900 +141.3	Sheriff's Tactical ARC	Tampa
2000 NI4CE system	WCF Skywarn net	NI4CE system
2000 147.105+ 146.2	Tampa ARC net	from Tampa
2000 28.365 USB	simplex	Brandon ARS
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
system		
2100 28.465 USB	10/10 net	from Orlando
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
1930 146.30	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	simplex net
from Tampa		
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
Petersburg		
1930 52.020 simplex	Suncoast 6'ers	from St
Petersburg		
1930 NI4CE system	WCF Section Digital Info Ne	NI4CE
system		
2000 147.105 146.2	Greater Tampa CERT net	from Tampa
2000 146.97- 146.2	Clearwater ARS	from
Clearwater		
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
system		
2100 NI4CE system	Tampa Bay Traders Net	non-affiliated
<b>THURSDAY</b>		
1800 146.52 simplex	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	North
Tampa		
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
Petersburg		
1900 444.750 +146.2	Fusion net	from Tampa
1930 146.850- & 442.625+ both pl 146.2	Wormhole	from St Petersburg
1930 146.6385 -127.3	Lakeland ARC	from
Lakeland		
1915 224.660- no tone	St Pete ARC	from St Petersburg
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
system		
<b>FRIDAY</b>		

1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
<b>SATURDAY</b>		
0830 3.911 (7.281 Alt.)+/- QRM Pinellas County	WCF Section HF Net	from
1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
<b>SUNDAY</b>		
1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
1930 NI4CE system system	WCF Section Net	NI4CE
2000 147.550 simplex County	550 Simplex Net	Pinellas
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
2100 144.210 USB orientation	Clearwater ARS	vertical

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**\*FOR SALE / WANTED\***

Anyone having something for sale or who might be looking for an item let me know. I will not print phone numbers or email addresses unless specifically told to since this newsletter might end up on the web. The exception is when I get the information off the web. If you are a member of the Wormhole then you have all the information you need on a club roster and if you are not a member .. why not? OK, if you are not a member you can contact me at the email address at the end of this newsletter, I will give you the information to contact the person involved.

**FOR SALE**, WWII Xceiver RT-68 & Power Supply with connecting cable, includes original manual all in very good condition, No idea of operating condition, trying to find a good home.

Free local pick up, St. Pete Beach Fl. Pictures here: <https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/wwii-xceiver-rt-68-local-pick-up.573447/> and here:

<http://bunkerofdoom.com/mil/rt68/index.html> , contact Jack at [w4grj@arrl.net](mailto:w4grj@arrl.net)

**FOR SALE**, Mosley TA-33M beam with the 40M add on kit. Antenna is on the ground and in good shape. There are several parts that need replacement. The 40M kit is new

in box. Antenna is broken down into six or seven foot sections so easy to handle. Asking \$400, talk to me, Bill AG4QX at arrl dot net or see me at the meeting.

**FOR SALE**, 13 element, 14.5 ft 220 beam. Wormhole property, \$20, contact Bill AG4QX or any other officer. **Free to any Wormhole member or other club.** Pickup at Bill's house.

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### \*HAMFESTS\*

- November 11** **SPARCFest**, Pinellas Park, **SPARCFest, FREE**, Freedom Lake Park, 9990 46th St N, Southeast corner of US 19 and 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Talk-in on 147.060+ no tone. VE testing at 0900. For more information go to <http://www.sparc-club.org/sparcfest.html>
- December 8-9** **Plant City, the 2017 Tampa Bay Hamfest is the West Central Florida Section Convention**, Friday and Saturday, at the Expo Building in the Strawberry Festival grounds, for information contact **Bill Williams AG4QX**, [chairman@fgcarc.org](mailto:chairman@fgcarc.org) or go to <http://www.tampabayhamfest.org> or you can just ask me, **Jim or Dee ;-)**
- January 13** **TARCFest**, TARC Clubhouse, 22<sup>nd</sup> St at the river, \$4 entry plus \$3 to tailgate, inside tables \$15 in advance, talkin on 147.105 +146.2, more info at <http://hamclub.org/>
- February 9-11** **Orlando Hamcation and State Convention**, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive, Tickets \$13 in advance, \$15 at door. Talkin 146.4760 - no PL or D-Star 146.850 -, all the information at [www.hamcation.com](http://www.hamcation.com) or call 407-841-0874
- February 24** **West Central Florida Section Technical Conference (3rd Annual TECHCON)**, Winter Haven, Polk County Emergency Operations Center  
1890 Jim Keene Blvd. **Looking for presentations and displays.**  
**Talk-In** 146.985, 444.625, 443.900 or 444.950, Pl for all 127.3. For info see <http://www.arrlwcf.org/> or contact Darrell Davis KT4WX at [kt4wx@arrl.net](mailto:kt4wx@arrl.net)
- May 26** **WormFest 2017**, Pinellas Park, **FREE**, Freedom Lake Park, 9990 46th St N, southeast corner of US 19 and 49<sup>th</sup> Street, 33782. Park opens at sunrise for vendor setup, hamfest starts at 0800. Talk-in on 442.625 + or 146.850 – both with a tone of 146.2. For a map and directions see <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org> .

Mid January	Frogman swim in Tampa Bay. <a href="http://www.tampabayfrogman.com/">http://www.tampabayfrogman.com/</a>
Last full weekend January	Winter Field Day, <a href="http://www.sparhams.org/index.php">http://www.sparhams.org/index.php</a>
Late January	Gasparilla celebration
March/April	MS Walks
March/April	Mass Casualty Exercises
Late April	Southeastern VHF Society Conference, <a href="http://www.svhfs.org">http://www.svhfs.org</a>
Late April	March For Babies (was March of Dimes) <a href="https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events">https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events</a>
Late April	Florida QSO Party
Mid-May	Annual Armed Forces Crossband Test
Early to Mid May	MS 150 bike ride <a href="http://bikeflc.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR?fr_id=28207&amp;pg=entry">http://bikeflc.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR?fr_id=28207&amp;pg=entry</a>
Mid-May	Florida Hurricane Exercise
Late May	Wormfest
Early June	Museum Ships on the Air
Fourth weekend in June	Field Day <a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/">http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/</a>
July 3/4	Midnight Run in Largo <a href="http://www.kiwanismidnightrun.com/">http://www.kiwanismidnightrun.com/</a>
August	International Lighthouse/Lightship Week <a href="https://illw.net/">https://illw.net/</a>
October, 3 <sup>rd</sup> weekend	JOTA, Scout Jamboree-on-the-AIR (around 14.280MHz)
Early December	ALS bike ride in Walsingham Park
December, first full weekend	Ride & Run With The Stars in Fort DeSoto Park
December, Second full weekend	Tampa Bay Hamfest <a href="http://www.fgcarc.org/">http://www.fgcarc.org/</a>

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### \*YOUR WORMHOLE OFFICERS\*

Bill AG4QX is President and editor of this newsletter, Vice-President is Mike K4ZPE, Treasurer is Jim KD4MZL, Paul KA4IOX is the Secretary, Dee N4GD is the Repeater Trustee and Neil W4NHL and Mike K4ZPE are our club webmasters.

### \*YOUR WORMHOLE REPEATERS\*

442.625 + PL 146.2  
146.850 - PL 146.2

The Wormhole repeaters are both now dual mode Yaesu DR-1X. FM analog as always and now Yaesu Fusion, a C4FM/FM digital mode. The repeater crew updated the software on May 3, 2016.

The Wormhole website is at: <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org>.

West Central Florida Section website: <http://www.arrlwcf.org/>.

The ARRL website is at: <http://www.arrl.org/>

This newsletter is written for The Glorious Society of the Wormhole, an ARRL affiliated amateur radio club located around the Seminole section of Pinellas County Florida. Anyone wishing to be added or removed from The Glorious Society of the Wormhole mailings please write to me at the address below and thy will be done.

73,

Bill Williams

AG4QX

ag4qx AT arrl DOT net