

## News from



# The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

February 2021

## Hello Worms

The Wormhole face to face meeting for February is cancelled. We will again have a meeting on the repeater at the regular meeting time of 1100 on Saturday morning. Like the regular meetings there are members on the repeater long before the meeting time so jump in there and chew the rag. We will again have everyone on ZOOM for picture only, no voice during the meeting. All voice will be on the radio ... that's what we do. But at least we could see each other. I will start ZOOM about 1030 so everyone can have a half hour for chatting and leave it on afterward for more of the same.

After the meeting we will try the flea market again. If you have something to sell be ready to show it. If small enough to pick up you can hold it in front of the camera. If too large or heavy you can have a picture to show while you talk or if using a usb camera you can move the camera to show it. In any case have a price and contact information available. For those only on radio we can still hear your description and price.

Bill Williams is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bill Williams' Zoom Meeting  
Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/2737114584?pwd=d1BETHVOQ21vWWZXZ0lYQ0FIWWtldz09>

Meeting ID: 273 711 4584

Passcode: worm

I got my covid shot last, Wednesday the 26th. I tried to get an appointment three times in the past and it never worked. Today the phone rang one time, was answered and I got my appointment for that day including adding my wife at the same time. We had to hurry to make the appointment but did make it and got the first shot. Unfortunately I suspect, like the flu, we may need to get a booster shot later to cover mutations that the current shots do not work against. Also maybe to extend the effectiveness of the current shots. Still it is some progress.

The Central Florida MS Society has cancelled the 2021 Citrus Ride (previously known as the MS150 Bike ride). They had previously reduced the ride to one day. I believe I am the only Wormhole volunteer for the ride but some non-worms get this newsletter.

The Orlando Hamcation is cancelled this year but they are putting on a Hamcation OSO party next Saturday, February 13. See <https://www.hamcation.com/special-event-station> for the rules and details.

The Brooksville hamfest on February 20<sup>th</sup> seems to still be on. I checked their website today and will check again just before our meeting.

### **\*TICKETMASTER FINED \$10M FOR FRAUD \***

ARS TECHNICA Dan Goodin 1-4-2021

Ticketmaster has agreed to pay a \$10 million criminal fine after admitting its employees repeatedly used stolen passwords and other means to hack a rival ticket sales company.

The fine, which is part of a deferred prosecution agreement Ticketmaster entered with federal prosecutors, resolves criminal charges filed last week in federal court in the eastern district of New York. Charges include violations of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, computer intrusion for commercial advantage or private financial gain, computer intrusion in furtherance of fraud, conspiracy to commit wire fraud and wire fraud.

In the settlement, Ticketmaster admitted that an employee who used to work for a rival company emailed the login credentials for multiple accounts the rival used to manage presale of ticket sales. At a San Francisco meeting attended by at least 14 employees of Ticketmaster or its parent company Live Nation, the employee used one set of credentials to log in to an account to demonstrate how it worked.

The employee, who wasn't identified in court documents, later provided Ticketmaster executives with internal and confidential financial documents he had retained from his previous employer. The employee was later promoted to director of client relations and given a raise. Court documents didn't identify the rival company, but Variety reported it was Songkick, which in 2017 [filed a lawsuit](#) accusing Ticketmaster of hacking its database. A few months later, Songkick went out of business.

The charges against Ticketmaster come 26 months after Zeeshan Zaidi, the former head of Ticketmaster's artist services division, pled guilty in a related case to conspiring to hack the rival company and engage in wired fraud. According to prosecutors, the former rival employee emailed the login credentials to Zaidi and another Ticketmaster employee.

“When employees walk out of one company and into another, it's illegal for them to take proprietary information with them,” FBI Assistant Director William Sweeney Jr. said in a [statement](#). “Ticketmaster used stolen information to gain an advantage over its competition, and then promoted the employees who broke the law.”

Besides providing login credentials, the former employee also showed Ticketmaster managers how to exploit a flaw in the URL generation scheme the rival used for unpublished ticketing webpages. To prevent the pages from being accessed by outsiders before they were made public, each one had a unique numerical value. The former employee told his new employer that the values were generated sequentially, and outsiders could use this information to view artist pages while they were still in early draft stages.

In early 2015, Ticketmaster assigned one of its employees to learn about this system and use it to maintain a spreadsheet listing every ticketing webpage that could be located. Ticketmaster would then identify the rival company's clients and “attempt to

dissuade them from selling tickets through the victim company,” federal prosecutors said. Zaidi, the prosecutors further said, explained that “we’re not supposed to tip anyone off that we have this view into [the victim company’s] activities.”

Besides paying the \$10 million fine, Ticketmaster has also agreed to maintain a compliance and ethics program designed to prevent and detect future hacking and unlawful acquisitions of competitors’ confidential information. Live Nation representatives didn’t respond to a message seeking comment for this post.

**UPDATE:** More than 24 hours after this post went live, a Ticketmaster representative finally responded to the request for comment. It reads: “Ticketmaster terminated both Zaidi and Mead in 2017, after their conduct came to light. Their actions violated our corporate policies and were inconsistent with our values. We are pleased that this matter is now resolved.”

## \* GETTING AN ANTENNA TO WORK - PART 5 \*

Ralph WD0EJA Jan 2021

In the last 2 previous articles Inductive and Capacitive reactance were described. These values have something to do with a resonant circuit. What is it?

Besides a reactance, other things go on in the 2 components inductor and capacitor. When an Alternating electrical source is applied to an inductor, the voltage and current have a little argument. They argue, who is first. In this case the voltage wins and it leads the current by 90 degrees. In other words the voltage and current which normally have waves that are in phase, separate. So when the voltage reaches its peak and starts on its way down, the current starts increasing from 0 to its peak behind the voltage.

With a capacitor, the current wins the argument and leads the voltage 90 degrees.

Why be concerned about this argument?

Connect an inductor and capacitor in series. One end of each component is connected together. The other side of the inductor is connected to your electrical source and the

same for the capacitor. When the frequency hits that amazing point where the 2 reactance's are equal, we have resonance. Because of the described phasing and being connected in series, the circuit develops a minimum resistance at resonance. At resonance, this resistance looks just like a regular resistor. No phasing argument. As you move up or down in frequency away from resonance, then the reactance starts to kick in and will increase.

Actually the resistance this circuit produces is really termed **IMPEDANCE - Z**. The definition of Z is, the total opposition to an alternating current. **RESISTANCE** is related to a direct current or a device that creates no Reactance - X, such as a carbon resistor - R.

From this point on **IMPEDANCE** or **Z** will be the terminology for alternating sources. Resistance that is caused by the reactance of an inductor or capacitor, is termed **REACTANCE** or **X**.

Resistance that is caused by a non-reactive device such as a carbon resistor, is simply termed **RESISTANCE** or **R**.

This Series Resonant configuration is the same configuration of dipoles, verticals and (huh?), Isotrons. Since this applies to most of the antennas used, we will continue on this configuration next.

73,

Ralph WD0EJA

Bilal Company

**\* WCF SECTION PRESS RELEASE #21-04 \***

WCF SECTION PRESS RELEASE #21-04 - 1/26/21: 7TH ANNUAL TECHCON TO GO VIRTUAL

The 7th Annual TECHCON, scheduled for Friday February 26 and Saturday February 27, 2021, which was scheduled to take place at the Polk County EOC, will transition to a virtual conference to be held via the Section Zoom account. Darrell Davis KT4WX, Chairman of TECHCON, made the following comments about the 7th Annual TECHCON going virtual, "I deeply regret this decision and it was not made easily. After consulting with those who are scheduled to speak and our Section Manager Mike Douglas W4MDD, I decided it was in our best interest to have the 7th

Annual TECHCON as a virtual event, due to rising numbers of COVID-19 infections in the State of Florida, and also due to the reservations that many of our presenters and even some of our attendees had expressed in doing TECHCON in person. This will allow for continuity and not put us into the position of not having TECHCON in 2021 at all.”

As of press time, the Friday Afternoon Workshop and the Saturday General Presentation will go forward and the Friday Evening Social, scheduled on Friday February 26, 2021 from 1800 through 2100 has been cancelled. There will only be one General Presentation Track on Saturday. Depending upon how many presentations are finally scheduled, the Saturday General Presentation Track could be slight expanded or some presentations can be held on Friday morning before the Friday Afternoon Workshop.

The Section Zoom account will be used for both days of TECHCON. TECHCON is still free of charge but our attendance at any given time will be limited to 100, due to the terms of our Zoom account. A final speaking schedule will be available 1 to 2 weeks before TECHCON. Registration will continue to be open and registration is encouraged so we will have an idea who is attending. The TECHCON workshop and general sessions will be recorded for later viewing.

END OF PRESS RELEASE

## **\*SWATTING TARGETS CAMERA AND VOICE SMART DEVICES\***

*SECURITYWEEK* By Eduard Kovacs on December 30, 2020

Recent swatting attacks target residents with camera and voice-capable smart devices.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) issued A public service announcement to warn users who own smart home devices with cameras and voice capabilities to use complex, unique passwords and enable two-factor authentication to help protect against “swatting” attacks. Swatting is a term used to describe a hoax call made to emergency services, typically reporting an immediate threat to human life, to draw a response from law enforcement and the S.W.A.T. team to a specific location.

Recently, offenders have been using victims’ smart devices, including video and audio capable home surveillance devices, to carry out swatting attacks. Smart home device manufacturers recently notified law enforcement that offenders have been using stolen

e-mail passwords to access smart devices with cameras and voice capabilities. The offenders then log into the smart device and hijack features, including the live-stream camera and device speakers.

EDITOR: Don't forget to say hi and wave to your smart refrigerator when you go in the kitchen in the middle of the night to get a drink of water.

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### **\*CLUB MEETING\***

There will not be a face to face club meeting on February 6th due to the virus. We will meet again on the 2M repeater at the regular meeting time with a video to video concurrent on ZOOM. We normally meet on the first Saturday every month at 11:00 Saturday morning at the Minnreg Building located at 6340 126th Ave N, Largo. Members are welcome to come in the rear area through the fence gate on the southeast corner of the property. Talk-in is on the Wormhole repeater system. For those coming to the meeting who cannot hit our 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 and 2000 (or at the end of the 2M net). 2M at 146.850 – with a tone of 146.2. Our 6M net runs after our regular 2M net on 53.150 – 1MHz offset 146.2 tone.

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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

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 system	WCF Section VHF ARES	NI4CE
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	Tampa ARC net	from
2000 28.365 USB	simplex	Brandon ARS
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
2100 28.465 USB	10/10 net	from Orlando
1900 146.490 simplex simplex Net	3 <sup>RD</sup> Tuesday monthly, Hillsborough Co ARES	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
1930 52.020 simplex Petersburg	Suncoast 6'ers	from St
1930 NI4CE system system	WCF Section Digital Info Ne	NI4CE
2000 147.105 146.2 Tampa	Greater Tampa CERT net	from
2000 146.97- 146.2 Clearwater	Clearwater ARS	from
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
2100 NI4CE system affiliated	Tampa Bay Traders Net	non-

## THURSDAY

1800 146.52 simplex Tampa	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	North
1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
1900 444.750 +146.2 Tampa	Fusion net	from
1915 224.660- no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC	from St
1930 146.6385 -127.3 Lakeland	Lakeland ARC	from
1930 444.225 + 146.2 Tampa	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	from
1930 146.850- 146.2 Petersburg	Wormhole	from St
2000 53.150 -1MHz 146.2 Petersburg	Wormhole	from St
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE

## FRIDAY

1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE

## SATURDAY

0730 3.940 (7.281 Alt.)+/- QRM WCF	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>		
0800 3.933	Florida Traders Net	non-affiliated
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,**      ERICSSON ORION UHF, 440-470 MHz, NEW in box, complete mobile installation set, 100 watt radio, remote control head, mic, speaker, mobile mount and all cables, \$125, see Bill AG4QX 813-300-3668

FOR SALE, Comet GP-1 2M/440 MHz base antenna, \$50, Ralph W4TNY, [w4tny@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:w4tny@tampabay.rr.com), 727-409-0468

FOR SALE, LMR-400 UltraFlex, 50ft, factory installed heat shrunk PL-259 connectors, Ralph W4TNY, [w4tny@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:w4tny@tampabay.rr.com), 727-409-0468

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### **\*HAMFESTS\***

- February 13**      **Orlando Hamcation “On The Air” QSO Party.** For rules and information goto <https://www.hamcation.com/special-event-station>
- February 20**      Brooksville, Sandhill Scout Reservation, 11210 Cortez Blvd. ,  
**Talk-In:** 147.715 MHz no tone, for more info: <http://hcara.org>  
Darin Defilippo , 352-603-1512, \$6 admission, tailgate and inside tables \$10, Gate opens at 0800.
- February 26**      **7th Annual TECHCON Convention** per the WCF Press Release published in this newsletter the 2021 version will now be virtual.
- March 6**            Punta Gorda, Peace River Radio Assoc., Punta Gorda Boat Club, 802 West Retta Esplanade, **the club website does not have any information on the 2021 hamfest** although they have registered with the ARRL for one, <https://www.prra.club/>
- May 29**            **WormFest 2021, Pinellas Park, admission FREE, tailgate 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> .**
- December 10 & 11**      **Plant City, the 2021 Tampa Bay Hamfest is the Florida State Convention and West Central Florida Section Convention, Friday and Saturday, at the Strawberry Festival grounds, admission \$10, 16x40ft tailgate space \$10, electric \$5, for**

**information contact Bill Williams AG4QX,  
chairman@fgcarc.org or go to <http://www.tampabayhamfest.org>  
or you can just ask me, Jim or Dee at a meeting ;-)**

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Mid January	Adventure Run, Honeymoon Island
Last full weekend January	Winter Field Day, <a href="https://www.winterfieldday.com/">https://www.winterfieldday.com/</a>
Late January	Gasparilla celebration
Late February	West Central Florida Tech Conference <a href="http://arllwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/">http://arllwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/</a>
March	MS 150 Citrus Tour bike ride <a href="http://www.citrustour.org/register.php">http://www.citrustour.org/register.php</a>
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	Florida QSO Party
Mid May	March For Babies (was March of Dimes) <a href="https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events">https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events</a>
Mid-May	Annual Armed Forces Crossband Test
Mid-May	Florida Hurricane Exercise
May, Memorial Day Weekend	Wormfest
First weekend in 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, Second weekend

Tampa Bay Hamfest <http://www.fgcarc.org/>

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### **\*YOUR WORMHOLE OFFICERS\***

Bill AG4QX is President and editor of this newsletter, Treasurer is Jim KD4MZL, Paul KA4IOX is the Secretary, Dee N4GD is the Repeater Trustee and Mike K4ZPE is both our club Vice President and webmaster.

### **\*YOUR WORMHOLE REPEATERS\***

53.150 -1Mz PL 146.2

442.625 +5Mz PL 146.2

146.850 - 600Kz PL 146.2

The Wormhole 2M and 440 repeaters are both now dual mode Yaesu DR-1X. FM analog as always and now Yaesu Fusion, a C4FM/FM digital mode.

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