

## News from



# The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

July 2021

## Hello Worms

In the April meeting a majority of members were in favor of a face to face meeting. The May and June meetings were successful with near 'normal' attendance. We will continue with the face to face meetings and at the same time try to broadcast the meeting on the repeater and Zoom. My laptop will not work with a camera, either the built in one or a USB plug in but Alan did a wonderful job of roving reporter at the June meeting and I hope he will do the same for July. The Zoom link is below. We will meet at the regular meeting time of 1100 on Saturday morning. We will again meet at the Lurie Civic Building which is the new Greater Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce. It is located on the St Petersburg College campus in Seminole. Turn west at the light at 113<sup>th</sup> St N and about 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave N. It's the first building on the north side. Here is a link to a Google map : [Google Maps](#) . In google maps the building does not exist yet at street level view but it is there at all the higher views. There is a few parking spots at the Chamber building but if you go another 100 yards past you can park in the college parking lot which is a lot closer to the meeting area.

BRING YOUR CHAIR and lunch! There are a few picnic benches if you do not have a folding chair. We will not be cooking but we have access to the Chamber of Commerce building which has a microwave and a toaster oven so you can heat up/cook what you bring. There will be water and cold drinks also but no food. There are coffee pots in the Chamber building so we may try brewing a pot or two but no guarantees on that yet. Bring your chair, lunch and coffee if you want it.

As always before a regular meetings there are members on the repeater before the meeting time so jump in there and chew the rag.

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

For the meeting do not forget ... BRING YOUR CHAIR, lunch and coffee!

## **\*MICROSOFT HAS SET END OF WINDOWS 10 \***

From your editor

Microsoft has set October 14, 2025, the 10 year anniversary, as the retirement date for Windows 10. See Microsoft website: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/lifecycle/products/windows-10-home-and-pro> .

Did Microsoft ever say that Windows 10 would be the last version? There was a comment made by developer Jerry Nixon in [this session](#) at the Ignite 2015 event. "Right now we're releasing Windows 10, and because Windows 10 is the last version of Windows, we're all still working on Windows 10," he said.

Microsoft never committed to keeping the Windows 10 branding indefinitely but did promise to keep Windows current once licensed to a device, for its "supported lifetime", at no cost. Windows 11 may be out for new computers in a few months and the free download available to all Windows 10 owners will be available at the end of the year.

I hope all the changes in WINDOWS 11 will be better against hacking and bugs but am not holding my breath.

## \* MICROSOFT TRYING TO PUBLISH WINDOWS 11 REQUIREMENTS \*

THE VERGE By [Tom Warren](#)

Microsoft announced yesterday that Windows 11 will require TPM (Trusted Platform Module) chips on existing and new devices. It's a significant hardware change that has been years in the making, but Microsoft's messy way of communicating this has left many confused about whether their hardware is compatible. What is a TPM, and why do you need one for Windows 11 anyway?

“The Trusted Platform Modules (TPM) is a chip that is either integrated into your PC's motherboard or added separately into the CPU,” explains David Weston, director of enterprise and OS security at Microsoft. “Its purpose is to protect encryption keys, user credentials, and other sensitive data behind a hardware barrier so that malware and attackers can't access or tamper with that data.”

So it's all about security. TPMs work by offering hardware-level protection instead of software only. It can be used to encrypt disks using Windows features like BitLocker, or to prevent dictionary attacks against passwords. TPM 1.2 chips have existed since 2011, but they've typically only been used widely in IT-managed business laptops and desktops. Microsoft wants to bring that same level of protection to everyone using Windows, even if it's not always perfect.

Microsoft has been warning for months that firmware attacks are on the rise. “Our own Security Signals report found that 83 percent of businesses experienced a firmware attack, and only 29 percent are allocating resources to protect this critical layer,” says Weston.

That 83 percent figure seems huge, but when you consider the various phishing, ransomware, supply chain, and IoT vulnerabilities that exist, the broad range of attacks becomes a lot clearer. Ransomware attacks hit the headlines weekly, and ransomware funds more ransomware so it's a difficult problem to solve. TPMs will certainly help with certain attacks, but Microsoft is banking on a combination of modern CPUs, Secure Boot, and its set of virtualization protections to really make a dent in ransomware.

Microsoft is trying to play its part, particularly as Windows is the platform that's often most affected by these attacks. It's widely used by businesses worldwide, and there are more than 1.3 billion Windows 10 machines in use today. Microsoft software has been at the core of devastating attacks that made global headlines, like the Russia-linked SolarWinds hack and the Hafnium hacks on Microsoft Exchange Server. And while the company isn't responsible for forcing its clients to keep its software patched, it's trying to be more proactive about protection.

Microsoft has a habit of struggling to move Windows into the future in both hardware and software, and this particular change hasn't been explained well. While Microsoft has required OEMs to ship devices with support for TPM chips since Windows 10, the company hasn't forced users or its many device partners to turn these on for Windows to work. That's what's really changing with Windows 11, and combined with Microsoft's Windows 11 upgrade checker, it has resulted in a lot of understandable confusion.

Microsoft's Windows 11 website lists the minimum system requirements, with a link to compatible CPUs and a clear mention that a TPM 2.0 is required at a minimum. The PC Health Check app that Microsoft asks people to download and check to see if Windows 11 runs will flag systems that do not have Secure Boot or TPM support enabled or devices that have CPUs that aren't officially supported (anything older than 8th Gen Intel chips).

That's left many trying to figure out if their device supports TPM or not, confusion with BIOS settings, and even people rushing to buy separate TPM modules they don't need. Some are even scalping TPM 2.0 modules on eBay!

It also didn't help that Microsoft originally had a second webpage with contradictory information, one which it changed a couple hours after we published this story. According to the original version of the page, the true minimum requirements were TPM 1.2 and a 64-bit dual-core CPU that's 1GHz or greater, but the new page now clarifies it requires TPM 2.0 and a processor that Microsoft has explicitly certified as compatible — which might mean everything before an 8th Gen Intel Core and AMD Ryzen 2000 won't work.

We're still waiting for explicit confirmation from Microsoft on the CPU requirement, but a rep confirms that TPM 2.0 will be mandatory, and that the original information on that page was wrong. "The referenced docs page was a mistake that has since been corrected," an MS rep tells *The Verge*.

Microsoft is promoting TPM 2.0 and performing checks for 8th Gen or newer Intel chips because these are the requirements for certified OEM hardware — the machines you'll find in stores with an inevitable Windows 11 sticker. But it's no longer clear whether the Windows 11 update will work on older machines either, and Microsoft is suggesting to us that it won't. We understand Microsoft is currently putting together a blog post that will explain the minimum requirements in more detail. But that doesn't mean your existing PC is out of luck just because you're having issues with Microsoft's compatibility tool. Unless your CPU is *very* old, it probably already has baked-in TPM 2.0 support.

If you're having issues with the PC Health App checker for Windows 11, make sure you have "PTT" on Intel systems enabled in the BIOS, or "PSP fTPM" on AMD devices. The company's system checker should also be less confusing now: shortly after we published this story, Weston tweeted that the tool will now be more specific about why your PC isn't passing muster.

What Microsoft is trying to achieve here will benefit the Windows ecosystem in years to come, alongside its new efforts for Xbox-like security on Windows. Microsoft just totally dropped the ball on explaining that to everyone on day one.

***Update, 2:26PM ET: Added that Microsoft updated its PC Health Check app, shortly after we published this story, to be more specific about why your computer isn't meeting Windows 11 system requirements.***

***Update, 3:53PM ET: Added that Microsoft has changed its compatibility page to mention TPM 2.0 as a requirement instead of TPM 1.2, and that specific CPUs may be a requirement. We're getting to the bottom of this now.***

***Correction, 8:06PM ET: This story originally stated Windows 11 would likely still install on PCs with access to TPM 1.2 and older CPUs, because that's what we read in Microsoft's documentation. Microsoft has now corrected those documents to specify TPM 2.0 is a minimum requirement for Windows 11.***

**EDITORS COMMENT:** When I put this are article in the newsletter I replaced another article that has been in here for a few weeks about the coming announcement of Windows 11 coming. Well that happened Monday so I replaced that article with this one. I have now been told by several people that they had not heard of Windows 11. Oh well. The sorth of it is that Windows 11 is coming and it will be free to Windows 10 holders. Windows 10 will be supported till 2025 so there is no hurry to replace it. Bill

**\* WELCOME TO ????? \***

*The Register* Tim Richardson

Bloody helpful, those Aussies. And jolly friendly too. In fact, they're so damn helpful one bloke painted "Welcome to Perth" in giant capital letters on a rooftop so air passengers about to land at the city airport could look down and see the greeting.

Snag is, the sign isn't on the final descent to Perth. It's just a hop, skip, and a jump from Sydney airport.

According to a [local TV news report](#), the welcome sign – which cost the prankster around AU\$4,500 (around £2,500) – was up there for around three months before people started to take notice.

One onlooker [interviewed on 7News](#) asked: "Does anyone know 'why', other than the fact that they just wanted to confuse people?" The reporter quipped: "Just to be funny."

Somewhat taken aback, the interviewee replied: "I mean, it's not that funny, though, is it, really?"

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Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (<https://KB6NU.Com/study-guides/>), and often appears on the ICQPodcast (<https://icqpodcast.com>). When he's not RF exposure evaluations, he teaches online ham radio classes and operates CW on the low end of the HF bands.

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**\*CLUB MEETING\***

We will again have a face to face club meeting on June. We will try to keep up on the 2M and also video concurrent on ZOOM. Our normal meeting place at the Minnreg Building is no longer available. The meeting will be held at the Lurie Civic Building which is the new Greater Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce. It is located on the St Petersburg College campus in Seminole. Turn west at the light at 113<sup>th</sup> St N and about 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave N.

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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                      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	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	

### **WEDNESDAY**

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
<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>		
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 can ask club members for the persons contact information. 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, Comet GP-1 2M/440 MHz base antenna, \$50, Ralph W4TNY,  
[w4tny@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:w4tny@tampabay.rr.com), 727-409-0468

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**\*HAMFESTS\***

August 21            **Tampa, TARCfest XLV**, TARC Clubhouse, 7801 N. 22nd S, t22<sup>nd</sup> St at the river, no other details yet, talkin on 147.105 +146.2, more info at <http://hamclub.org/>

October 23            Tamiami Fox Hunt, **T. Mabry Carlton Reserve**, information at <https://tamiamiarc.org/annual-fox-hunt/>

**December 10 & 11**    **Plant City, the 2021 Tampa Bay Hamfest 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 ;-)

## 2022

**February 11-13**    **Orlando Hamcation and NATIONAL Convention**, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive, Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at door. Talk-in 146.760 - PL 103.5 OR Fusion. Also D-Star on 146.820 -, all the information at [www.hamcation.com](http://www.hamcation.com) or call 407-841-0874 There is also a AM low power Information Station on AM 610.

**May 28**            **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 146.850 – 146.2. No food or open drinks will be available! For a map and directions see <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org> .



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://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/">http://arrlwcf.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 <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, 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 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