

## News from



# The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

September 2021

## Hello Worms

I am sitting here feeling so sorry for those whose lives were destroyed or at least changed forever by Ida and at the same time glad it went there and not here. Talk about mixed emotions! It looks like Katrina all over again.

The face to face attendance at the August meeting was 10. Several members were out of state and the resurgence of covid persuaded others to stay home safe. Staying home is probably a good move at this time but I will be there again for the September meeting. I thank Alan for all his work broadcasting ZOOM from the park. We will continue with the face to face meetings and at the same time try to broadcast the meeting on the repeater and video. More on that down the page. 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](#) . There are 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 outside meeting area.

BRING YOUR CHAIR and lunch! There are a few picnic benches if you do not have a folding chair but they are not comfortable. 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.

I have discovered an interesting website. <https://www.wb4aej.com/plates/> WB4AEJ has looked up and listed the state websites for amateur radio license plates for almost all 50 states. Under the Florida heading is an Application for Amateur Radio License Plate. That is particularly interesting since when I got mine I just asked at the desk got it. Actually the clerk had to call her supervisor and he had to look it up but once they knew what it was and how to do it it was just done on the regular computer screen. The form on the website was revised in 2014 and I got my first ham license plate in 2003 so I guess that means there is a form for doing it over the mail if you want to try that. I think it is easier just to walk up to the counter and tell them what you want. Maybe printing out the form and taking it with you might speed up the process. Of course you only have to do any of that for the first time. Renewals are just like any other license plate.

Now regarding the video transmission. Zoom has started enforcing the 40 minute limit on the free accounts. We had an ARES/RACES meeting cut off last week. I am gonna try Ring Centrals GLIP video conferencing. There are no time limits for the free account and those who join the meeting do not need to download any software. There is some confusion but I think I have a meeting scheduled. If it does not work we will switch back to ZOOM if we can. The information for both are below.

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Bill Williams has invited you to a RingCentral Video meeting.

Please join using this link: <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/800931668596?pw=6d3f321e4e2b98afdd8cde1c2ee4ecac>

Meeting ID: 800931668596

Password: worm

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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

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

**\*APPLE WILL SCAN PHONE PHOTOS \***

*ELECTRONIC FRONTIER FOUNDATION* by India Mckinney and Erica Portnoy

Apple has announced impending changes to its operating systems that include new “protections for children” features in iCloud and iMessage. If you’ve spent any time following the Crypto Wars, you know what this means: Apple is planning to build a backdoor into its data storage system and its messaging system.

Child exploitation is a serious problem, and Apple isn't the first tech company to bend its privacy-protective stance in an attempt to combat it. But that choice will come at a high price for overall user privacy. Apple can [explain at length](#) how its technical implementation will preserve privacy and security in its proposed backdoor, but at the end of the day, even a thoroughly documented, carefully thought-out, and narrowly-scoped backdoor is still a backdoor.

To say that we are disappointed by Apple’s plans is an understatement. Apple has historically been a champion of end-to-end encryption, for all of the same reasons that EFF has articulated time and time again. Apple’s compromise on end-to-end encryption may appease government agencies in the U.S. and abroad, but it is a

shocking about-face for users who have relied on the company’s leadership in privacy and security.

There are two main features that the company is planning to install in every Apple device. One is a scanning feature that will scan all photos as they get uploaded into iCloud Photos to see if they match a photo in the database of known child sexual abuse material (CSAM) maintained by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). The other feature scans all iMessage images sent or received by child accounts—that is, accounts designated as owned by a minor—for sexually explicit material, and if the child is young enough, notifies the parent when these images are sent or received. This feature can be turned on or off by parents.

When Apple releases these “client-side scanning” functionalities, users of iCloud Photos, child users of iMessage, and anyone who talks to a minor through iMessage will have to carefully consider their privacy and security priorities in light of the changes, and possibly be unable to safely use what until this development is one of the preeminent encrypted messengers.

We’ve said it before, and we’ll say it again now: it’s impossible to build a client-side scanning system that can only be used for sexually explicit images sent or received by children. As a consequence, even a well-intentioned effort to build such a system will break key promises of the messenger’s encryption itself and open the door to broader abuses.

All it would take to widen the narrow backdoor that Apple is building is an expansion of the machine learning parameters to look for additional types of content, or a tweak of the configuration flags to scan, not just children’s, but anyone’s accounts. That’s not a slippery slope; that’s a fully built system just waiting for external pressure to make the slightest change. Take the example of India, where recently passed rules include dangerous requirements for platforms to identify the origins of messages and pre-screen content. New laws in Ethiopia requiring content takedowns of “misinformation” in 24 hours may apply to messaging services. And many other countries—often those with authoritarian governments—have passed similar laws. Apple’s changes would enable such screening, takedown, and reporting in its end-to-end messaging. The abuse cases are easy to imagine: governments that outlaw

homosexuality might require the classifier to be trained to restrict apparent LGBTQ+ content, or an authoritarian regime might demand the classifier be able to spot popular satirical images or protest flyers.

We've already seen this mission creep in action. One of the technologies originally built to scan and hash child sexual abuse imagery has been repurposed to create a database of "terrorist" content that companies can contribute to and access for the purpose of banning such content. The database, managed by the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT), is troublingly without external oversight, despite calls from civil society. While it's therefore impossible to know whether the database has overreached, we do know that platforms regularly flag critical content as "terrorism," including documentation of violence and repression, counterspeech, art, and satire.

Apple's plan for scanning photos that get uploaded into iCloud Photos is similar in some ways to Microsoft's PhotoDNA. The main product difference is that Apple's scanning will happen on-device. The (unauditable) database of processed CSAM images will be distributed in the operating system (OS), the processed images transformed so that users cannot see what the image is, and matching done on those transformed images using private set intersection where the device will not know whether a match has been found. This means that when the features are rolled out, a version of the NCMEC CSAM database will be uploaded onto every single iPhone. The result of the matching will be sent up to Apple, but Apple can only tell that matches were found once a sufficient number of photos have matched a preset threshold.

Once a certain number of photos are detected, the photos in question will be sent to human reviewers within Apple, who determine that the photos are in fact part of the CSAM database. If confirmed by the human reviewer, those photos will be sent to NCMEC, and the user's account disabled. Again, the bottom line here is that whatever privacy and security aspects are in the technical details, all photos uploaded to iCloud will be scanned.

Make no mistake: this is a decrease in privacy for all iCloud Photos users, not an improvement. Currently, although Apple holds the keys to view Photos stored in

iCloud Photos, it does not scan these images. Civil liberties organizations have asked the company to remove its ability to do so. But Apple is choosing the opposite approach and giving itself *more* knowledge of users' content.

EDITOR NOTE: For the whole article including links to lots of references goto :

<https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2021/08/apples-plan-think-different-about-encryption-opens-backdoor-your-private-life>

## **\* LINUX IS 30 \***

The latest version is 5.14 and according to Linus Torvalds the next 30 years is something to look forward to.

## **\* THE NANO-VECTOR NETWORK ANALYZER PART 2\***

By Ralph WD0EJA

The last article showed how to set up the VNA to measure the SWR of your antenna. The graph shows the SWR value across the spectrum of band that was chosen. Hopefully you "Saved" the calibration.

If the minimum point of the curve is not on the screen, then you can expand the spectrum by changing the "Stimulus" setting until you see it. At this point you will concentrate on setting the resonant point where you need it.

Having the minimum within the original spectrum you set, will measure the frequency it is at. However, you may notice that it may appear to be unstable and the SWR read out is also jumping around. This is due to the VNA measuring minute changes in SWR that are normal.

To stabilize the reading select "Marker" on the menu. Then "Search". Then "Minimum" and "Tracking". Now the SWR will follow the minimum SWR reading. If you want to measure up or down on the spectrum you will need to take off "Tracking".

To measure how close the antenna is to 50 ohms at resonance, go to "Display" on the main menu. Then "Trace". Select "Trace 2 (green)". You may want to remove "Trace 1 (blue)". It does not apply to this test.

Be sure Trace 0 (yellow) is highlighted on the main screen. Both traces should read SWR. Now we are going to change Trace 0. Go to "Display". Then "Format". Then select "Smith".

Now you will see two graphs. Trace 0 (yellow) is the Smith Chart. Trace 2 (green) is the original SWR graph ("Minimum and "Tracking" are still activated). You will see a reading that will be unlabeled if it is below 1,000. This is the impedance of your antenna at resonance. Your goal is 50 ohms at the minimum SWR frequency or resonant point. How did you do?

Now you can take a hammer to your antenna and adjust it to perfection.

73,  
Ralph WD0EJA  
**Bilal Company**  
www.isotronantennas.com  
Aug. 2021

**\* T\_MOBILE HIT WITH MASSIVE BREACH \***

vice.com by Joseph Cox August 15, 2021

A day after this article was published, [T-Mobile confirmed in an announcement that it suffered a data breach](#). T-Mobile said the breach impacted 7.8 million current postpaid customers and 40 million former or prospective customers who applied for credit with the company. The original story is below.

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T-Mobile says it is investigating a forum post claiming to be selling a mountain of personal data. The forum post itself doesn't mention T-Mobile, but the seller told

Motherboard they have obtained data related to over 100 million people, and that the data came from T-Mobile servers.

The data includes social security numbers, phone numbers, names, physical addresses, unique IMEI numbers, and driver licenses information, the seller said. Motherboard has seen samples of the data, and confirmed they contained accurate information on T-Mobile customers.

"T-Mobile USA. Full customer info," the seller told Motherboard in an online chat. The seller said they compromised multiple servers related to T-Mobile.

On the underground forum the seller is asking for 6 bitcoin, around \$270,000, for a subset of the data containing 30 million social security numbers and driver licenses. The seller said they are privately selling the rest of the data at the moment.

"I think they already found out because we lost access to the backdoored servers," the seller said, referring to T-Mobile's potential response to the breach.

They said that although it appears T-Mobile has since kicked them out of the hacked servers, the seller had already downloaded the data locally. "It's backed up in multiple places," they said.

T-Mobile said in a statement to Motherboard that "We are aware of claims made in an underground forum and have been actively investigating their validity. We do not have any additional information to share at this time." T-Mobile repeatedly declined to answer follow-up questions about the scale of the breach.

### **\*WINLINK WEDNESDAY NET\***

The original Winlink Wednesday is a weekly amateur radio digital net where check-ins are accomplished by using the Winlink (global email via amateur radio) system.



The primary purpose of Winlink Wednesday is to encourage the regular use of the Winlink among amateur radio operators by providing an opportunity to expand their skills with Winlink, and to practice them on a regular basis. My purpose is to keep users sharp so that, if and when a served agency calls on us, we can perform confidently and professionally.

Although previously aimed primarily at Virginia amateur radio operators, participation from outside of Virginia now comprises more than 20 percent of each week's check-ins, including some two dozen US states and several foreign countries. Regular practice in the use of Winlink is heartily encouraged, in all of its various modes currently available to the end user, as well as any modes that may be developed by the Winlink Development Team (WDT) or acquired by the amateur in the future. These include, but are not limited to, Packet, ARDOP, VARA, and PACTOR.

The website <https://winlinkwednesday.net> is devoted to all things Winlink Wednesday, and includes weekly announcements, current Net Report and Roster, links to interactive participant maps, a number of related documents and resources. For social media users, the Facebook group "Virginia EmComm" (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/VirginiaEmComm>) is devoted to general discussions related to EmComm topics, but also provides up-to-the-minute information of upcoming and current Winlink Wednesday nets, as well as past results.

The net time is all day, 0000 to 2359 EDT.

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### \*CLUB MEETING\*

We will again have a face to face club meeting on September. We will try to keep up on the 2M and also video concurrent on a video service. 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.



## \*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 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

1900 146.490 simplex 3<sup>RD</sup> Tuesday monthly, Hillsborough Co ARES  
simplex Net

## WEDNESDAY

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 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-
0000-2359 HF Winlink <a href="https://winlinkwednesday.net/reminder.html">https://winlinkwednesday.net/reminder.html</a>	Winlink Wednesday Net	

#### **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
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**FRIDAY**

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

0730 3.940 (7.281 Alt.)+/- QRM WCF	WCF Section HF Net	from
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1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
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2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
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**SUNDAY**

0800 3.933	Florida Traders Net	non-affiliated
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1830 147.060 no tone Petersburg	St Pete ARC daily net	from St
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1930 NI4CE system system	WCF Section Net	NI4CE
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2000 147.550 simplex County	550 Simplex Net	Pinellas
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2030 NI4CE system system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE
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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,

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## \*HAMFESTS\*

- October 16      New Port Richey, Millennium Academy, 10005 Ridge Road, talkin 146.67 +146.2, nothing on website, contact Barry Keaveny , N2NVP, 727-277-5794, **Email:** [keavbv@msn.com](mailto:keavbv@msn.com)
- October 23      Tamiami Fox Hunt, **T. Mabry Carlton Reserve**, information at <https://tamiamiarc.org/annual-fox-hunt/>
- November 13      **Pinellas Part, SPARKFest**, Freedom lake Park, 9990 46th St. N., All FREE, 8:00 AM until Noon, **talkin** 147.06 (+) none, VE Testing, for info see <https://www.sparc-club.org/sparcfest/> or Lisa, KC1YL at [Vice-President@sparc-club.org](mailto:Vice-President@sparc-club.org)
- 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](mailto: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. All FREE! For a map and directions see <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org> .**



Mid January	Adventure Run, Honeymoon Island
Last full weekend January <a href="https://www.winterfieldday.com/">https://www.winterfieldday.com/</a>	Winter Field Day,
Late January	Gasparilla celebration
Late February <a href="http://arrlwcfc.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/">http://arrlwcfc.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/</a>	West Central Florida Tech Conference
March <a href="http://www.citrustour.org/register.php">http://www.citrustour.org/register.php</a>	MS 150 Citrus Tour bike ride
March/April	MS Walks
March/April	Mass Casualty Exercises
Late April <a href="http://www.svhfs.org">http://www.svhfs.org</a>	Southeastern VHF Society Conference,
Late April	Florida QSO Party
Mid May <a href="https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events">https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events</a>	March For Babies (was March of Dimes)
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>	
Third weekend in 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 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