



News from

The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

August 2022

Hello Worms

Another month gone already. I never seem to catch up. I planned on sending this Tuesday but life got in the way so it is a day late.

We are still trying to get control of the website and MailChimp. I say we but Ian and Mike's wife Linda W4PBY is doing all the work. I have retrieved several mailing lists I used years ago, combined them with the current membership list to make a new newsletter mailing list. I know I am missing people but have no way of knowing who. Mike was reformatting the newsletter so it was friendly with cell phones. I don't know how so will be sending it out as a .doc file like I did years ago. I am looking for suggestions to improve that delivery.

This month we have another bad news item. The beloved wife of Alan passed on July 18th after years of fighting cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with Alan and family in their time of sorrow. Services will be held on August 13th at Moss Feaster, 693 S. Belcher Road.

We are looking for a new Vice-President to replace Mike. About the only duty is to run the meeting when I am not there. Let me know if you are willing.

We are looking for net control stations to replace Mike. We have two but would like three or four. If you are interested in being a net control station for once or twice a month let me or Dee or George know. You can talk to them on the weekly net or the meeting.

We are looking for a web master to replace Mike. It is a pretty easy website to do so a new person or one with not much time to dedicate to it could still handle it. If anyone is interested let me know. Or if you know someone interested. The webmaster does not need to be a ham or even a club member but attending a meeting occasionally would be nice.

We will meet face to face for those who wish to do so. If Alan is in attendance or we meet inside, we will broadcast the meeting on the repeater and video. We will meet at the regular meeting time of 1100 on Saturday morning at the Lurie Civic Building on the St Petersburg

College campus in Seminole. Turn west at the light at 113th St N and about 92nd 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 in front 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. Double parking is fine since we will be able to find the owner to move his vehicle if necessary. Below is the Zoom information. I only have one Zoom meeting I use for everything , same link and same passcode as every month ;-)

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

BRING YOUR CHAIR and lunch! There are a few picnic benches if you do not have a folding chair but they are not comfortable for most of us. 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. Also bring your lunch and coffee if you want it. We will meet inside if the weather is or looks like it will be bad.

I am selling some silent key stuff in the For Sale section of this newsletter. Robert Fletcher WA4EKR lived to 92 but unfortunately he stopped with his amateur radio in his 70s and his shack was in the garage so the equipment did not live an easy life, it is all pretty rough. Take a look, you might find something you can't do without. I can bring something to the meeting if you have an interest in seeing it. Also Ray has some items there for sale. His is in better shape but not as interesting;-)

Speaking of repairing equipment, Lee Sutherland of Technical Specialists has moved from his Tampa location to Spring Hill. His website has his new address:
<http://hamradiorepairfix.com/> He will be operating from his garage until he can get a shop built.

Happy birthday to the Commodore 64 which turns 40 this month.

* T-MOBILE IS SELLING YOUR APP ACTIVITY – HOW TO STOP IT*

How-To-Geek by Corbin Davenport

T-Mobile has positioned itself as a better alternative to other carriers over the past few years, but it also plays many of the same tricks as other networks, including selling user data. The network is now targeting advertisements based on app usage data, but there's a way to opt out.

T-Mobile launched a new advertising platform last week, called '[App Insights](#),' which has been in beta testing for the past year. The service allows advertisers to target groups of T-Mobile customers sorted into generalized categories, such as "business travelers." Google has been trying a similar targeting method with '[Topics](#)' in Chrome, but even Google had difficulty [balancing privacy and advertisements](#) — the FLoC proposal that preceded Topics was [prone to fingerprinting](#). T-Mobile's data also doesn't include specific locations or activity within apps.

T-Mobile App Insights tracks T-Mobile wireless customers based on the apps they have installed on their phones, which Wi-Fi networks they connect to, and domains (websites) they visit in a web browser. Domain data is tracked across all devices connected to T-Mobile, but app usage data is currently not sold from iPhones. T-Mobile said it is "kicking the tires" on collecting app usage information from iPhone devices, so that could be integrated in the near future.

T-Mobile executives told *Ad Exchanger* some examples of how the data is already being used. McDonalds used the service to track installations for its own application at the same time as Burger King and Popeye's mobile apps. Wavemaker, an advertising agency working with T-Mobile, said that DoorDash could use the platform to more aggressively target customers that have competing apps like Uber Eats installed.

Many carriers have set up similar advertising networks in the past, but this is another sign that network-level data collection is becoming a popular choice in the wake of [increased device-level privacy features](#). Ad blockers in Chrome won't protect you from T-Mobile analyzing your internet traffic — [only a VPN will do that](#), and even then, carriers have other data about you at their disposal.

Making matters worse, the main way to opt out of this data collection is to install *another* app: T-Mobile's 'Magenta Marketing Platform Choices'. You can download it on the [App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#), for iPhone/iPad and Android devices, respectively.

You can also install the 'AppChoices' app from the Digital Advertising Alliance, which allows you to opt out from many different advertising networks in one tap, including T-Mobile's data collection. AppChoices is available on the [App Store](#), [Google Play Store](#), and [Amazon](#)

* S-METERS*

Ralph WD0EJA

Virtually all receivers have them. Are they of value for measuring signal strength?

When a signal is strong, of course. When a signal is weak, the meter is not so good.

Most S-Meters are driven by the "Automatic Gain Control" circuit, or AGC. This can be done in a variety of ways. AGC voltages can be applied to 1 or several amplifier stages in the receiver. This makes it difficult to standardize S-Meter values.

In time you will know how your S-Meter reacts. It is common to hear an operator state that his S-Meter is stingy, or generous. After using a radio for a time, you can get an idea of the sensitivity of the S-Meter. It certainly is not a standard measurement.

Some like to estimate that 1 S unit equals 6 dB gain. This could be, but there is no guarantee. It may be mentioned in the specifications of your receiver. If so, then you have something definite to go by.

S units are a relative reading. So we can use it to make comparisons. When an operator changes antennas, you can give him the difference of the S-Meter reading. The S-Meter values did not change, only the other's antenna.

The S-Meter can be used to listening to 2 operators from the same location and make comparisons. Using the S-Meter to compare signals on ground wave is another use. Just keep in mind it is only a relative reading.

What about the section that is over S-9?

It is not S-10. It is a 10dB increase over the S-9 value. If the S-meter reads 6 dB per S unit, then you have gained almost 1.5 S units.

Keep in mind that the S-Meter is a relative measurement and works well in measuring comparisons.

73,
Ralph WD0EJA
[BILAL COMPANY](#)

MICROSOFT CHANGING WINDOWS UPDATES ... AGAIN

WINDOWS CENTRAL by Zac Bowden

Microsoft is shifting to a new engineering schedule for Windows which will see the company return to a more traditional three-year release cycle for major versions of the Windows client, while simultaneously increasing the output of new features shipping to the current version of Windows on the market.

The news comes just a year after [the company announced it was moving to a yearly release cadence](#) for new versions of Windows. According to my sources who are familiar with these plans, Microsoft now intends to ship “major” versions of the Windows client every three years, with the next release currently scheduled for 2024, three years after Windows 11 shipped in 2021.

This means that the originally planned 2023 client release of Windows (codenamed Sun Valley 3) has been scrapped, but that's not the end of the story. I'm told that with the move to this new development schedule, Microsoft is also planning to increase the output of new features rolling out to users on the latest version of Windows.

Starting with Windows 11 version 22H2 (Sun Valley 2), Microsoft is kicking off a new “Moments” engineering effort which is designed to allow the company to rollout new features and experiences at key points throughout the year, outside of major OS releases. I hear the company intends to ship new features to the in-market version of Windows every few months, up to four times a year, starting in 2023.

Microsoft has already tested this system with the rollout of the Taskbar weather button on Windows 11 earlier this year. That same approach will be used for these Moments, where the company will group together a handful of new features that have been in testing with Insiders and roll them out to everyone on top the latest shipping release of Windows.

Many of the features that were planned for the now-scrapped Sun Valley 3 client release will ship as part of one of these Moments on top of Sun Valley 2, instead of in a dedicated new release of the Windows client in the fall of 2023.

In the past, most product teams would have to wait for the annual fall release of Windows to ship new features, but now those teams can ship their features sooner thanks to this new Moments engineering effort. Keep in mind that the term “Moments” is what Microsoft is calling these planned feature drops internally. I'm unsure if that branding will be used publicly, and it's unclear if Microsoft intends to increment the Windows 11 version number to "23H2" along with them.

Regarding the 2024 release of Windows, not much is known about it at this time. It's currently in early planning and engineering stages, with people inside the company dubbing it "Next Valley" in conversations, though I'm not sure if that's a final codename for the project.

Overall, these changes to the Windows roadmap are significant and will allow Microsoft to do big-bang new releases of the Windows client every few years like it has in the past, while also keeping the in-market version of Windows current with new features and changes that roll out to users on a regular and frequent basis.

Of course, like with any internal plans, the direction and schedules could change or slip at any time. Microsoft officials declined to comment.

RADIOSHACK RISES AGAIN

Reviewgeek by Andrew Heinzman

Do you ever get the urge to buy an old brand name like RadioShack and use its lifeless corpse to sell cryptocurrency? Me neither. But that's exactly what's happened. Retail Ecommerce Ventures, an unregulated investment company owned by Tai Lopex and Alex Mehr is preparing to launch Radio token.

According to the redesigned RadioShack website, Radio token leverages the Atlas USV, a decentralized base layer (owned by Tai Lopex and Alex Mehr) that can manage first-party and third-party coins. It's a complicated thing that's difficult to understand, but that's ok because Tai Lopex and Alex Mehr are really banking on the RadioShack brand.

Why RadioShack? Aside from its financial instability, RadioShack had nothing to do with cryptocurrency or the blockchain. It's just a dead brand that people remember with a quick laugh or a grimace.

DID YOU KNOW

How to Geek

RAS Syndrome, Redundant Acronym Syndrome Syndrome, refers to the use of one or more of the words that make up an acronym in conjunction with the abbreviated form (e.g. saying "I'm going to the ATM Machine" when the "M" in ATM already stands for "machine"); the redundancy of the word "syndrome" in the name of the effect is a tongue-in-cheek nod to the effect itself. Another is to say 73s when 73 means best wishes.



CLUB MEETING

We will again have a face to face club meeting in August. We will try to keep up on the 2M repeater 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 113th St N and about 92nd Ave N.

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

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 28.365 USB	10M 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 RD Tuesday monthly, Hillsborough Co ARES simplex Net	

WEDNESDAY

1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1900 147.165 + 136.5	Humpday Net	from Bandon
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
0000-2359 HF Winlink	Winlink Wednesday Net https://winlinkwednesday.net/reminder.html	

THURSDAY

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
1915 224.660- no tone	St Pete ARC	from St Petersburg

1930 146.6385 -127.3	Lakeland ARC	from Lakeland
1930 444.225 + 146.2	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	from Tampa
1930 146.850- 146.2	Wormhole	from St Petersburg
2000 53.150 -1MHz 146.2	Wormhole	from St Petersburg
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
FRIDAY		
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1900 3.830 LSB	Brandon 80M Net	from Brandon
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
SATURDAY		
0730 3.940 (7.281 Alt.)+/- QRM	WCF Section HF Net	from WCF
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
SUNDAY		
0800 3.933	Florida Traders Net	non-affiliated
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930 NI4CE system	WCF Section Net	NI4CE system
2000 147.550 simplex	550 Simplex Net	Pinellas County
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
2100 144.210 USB	Clearwater ARS	vertical orientation

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,

See Bill AG4QX for the following: most from SK estate

- *Yaesu-Musen FRG-7 Receiver \$100 looks rough
- *Swan 750CW Transceiver with 117x power supply and cables, looks rough \$200
- *Heathkit HW-101 Transceiver \$150 was his primary radio, looks rough
- *Heathkit HD-1250 Solid State Dip Meter \$35 with all coils in case
- *Heathkit HD-1215 Phone patch \$15 looks ok
- *Drake WV-5 wattmeter \$100 looks ok
- *Radio Shack 10A power supply 22-506 \$40 (looks new)
- *Astron RS-12A 12A power supply \$35 looks ok
- *Tektronic 2236 scope \$75 does not turn on (looks good)
- *EICO 482 scope \$125 (looks good)

This stuff if from Ray KD4HUW

- *Yaesu ft-1000MP (100 watt) \$775.00
- * Icom AH-4 antenna tuner \$175.00
- *MFJ-616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer \$90.00

HAMFESTS

2022

- August 13 Fort Pierce, Treasure Coast Public Safety Training Complex, 4600 Kirby Loop Road, ALL INDOOR, Gate \$10, table \$15, electric \$5, talkin 147.345 +107.2, for info and tickets goto <https://fparc.org/>
- August 20** **Tampa, TARCfest** TARC Clubhouse, 7801 N 22nd St, \$5 entry includes tailgate, a few inside tables reserved in advance, talkin on 147.105 +146.2, more info at <http://hamclub.org/>
- September 3 Dade City, Shell Bees 2Far Fest, Dade City Masonic Lodge, 13642 21st Street South, **Talk-In:** 147.135+ 146.2, info Gary Mentro , N3OS, 813-810-9804. gmentro@gmail.com

October 15 Bradenton, 2nd Annual Manatee Amateur Radio Club Swapfest, 2113 Morgan Johnson Rd, Talk-In 146.820 – 100.0, info Michael Ryan , K4CVL ,941-376-6453, mryan5200@gmail.com, no info on website

November 12 Pinellas Park, **SPARCFest**, admission FREE, tailgate free, Freedom Lake Park, 9990 46th St N, Southeast corner of US 19 and 49th Street, Talk-in on 147.060+ no tone. VE testing at 0900. For more information go to <http://www.sparc-club.org/sparcfest.html> or email kc1yl@yahoo.com

December 9 & 10 **Plant City, the 2022 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 ;-)**

Mid January	Adventure Run, Honeymoon Island
Last full weekend January	Winter Field Day https://www.winterfieldday.com/
Late January	Gasparilla celebration
Late February	West Central Florida Tech Conference http://arllwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/
March	MS 150 Citrus Tour bike ride http://www.citrustour.org/register.php
March/April	MS Walks
March/April	Mass Casualty Exercises
Late April	Southeastern VHF Society Conference, http://www.svhfs.org
Late April	Florida QSO Party
Mid May	March For Babies (was March of Dimes) https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events
Mid May	Annual Armed Forces Crossband Test
Mid-May	Florida Hurricane Exercise
Late May	Dayton Hamfest
May, Memorial Day Weekend	Wormfest
First weekend in June	Museum Ships on the Air

Fourth weekend in June	Field Day http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/
July 3/4	Midnight Run in Largo http://www.kiwanismidnightrun.com/
Third weekend in August	International Lighthouse/Lightship Week https://illw.net/
October, 3 rd 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/

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. The Vice President and webmaster positions are currently open.

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](mailto:ag4qx@arrl.net)