



News from

## The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

March 2023

### Hello Worms

Yeesu has a new mobile coming. Dual band, analog/fusion, APRS, 50W, removable head and Bluetooth. Looks totally different from all current Yeesu mobile radios. Scheduled to March availability. No price yet. Does not have the big head the FTM-400 did but maybe it is the 400 replacement. Speaking of FTM-400s Biff Crane has one in his estate. That is a segway into the next paragraph.

Bif Crane's (K4LAW) radio estate has been finished and is now available for sale. I am attaching a copy of the email from Bill Bode (TARC president) and the equipment list. Please read the email, it explains the sale process. If you knew Bif then you know everything was well cared for. Unfortunately, copying the equipment list lost the column formatting but you will figure it out ;-)

In the February meeting it was decided to always meet inside. We will broadcast the meeting on the repeater and Zoom video. I am moving the directions to the meeting place and Zoom to the end of the newsletter, you all have seen them enough.

We will have donuts, water and soft drinks (probably only root beer). Bring, your coffee and lunch if you want! We will not be cooking but we have access to the Chamber of Commerce kitchen which has a microwave and a toaster oven so you can heat up/cook what you bring.

### **\*TIKTOK THIEVES STEAL KIA AND HYUNDAI CARS\***

*reviewgeek* by Cory Gunther

Owners of select Hyundai and Kia models are being asked to take precautions when parking vehicles due to a rise in auto thefts. And while cars are pretty high-tech these days, this easy hack quickly went [viral on YouTube](#) and TikTok because thieves use only a USB cable to steal vehicles.

Thieves have targeted KIA models from 2011 to 2021 and Hyundai models from 2015 to 2021 because of a “vulnerability” that allows them to remove the steering column cover, then use a USB cable to steal the car. The vandals can quickly release the wheel lock, then use the USB cable to override the system, turn it like a key, and drive off.

If your Hyundai or KIA falls in the years mentioned above and does not have a push-to-start button, it’ll be easy to steal. Why is this happening? Well, these models do not include a factory-installed anti-theft device called an immobilizer. In many modern cars, immobilizers use a transponder chip to authenticate a key against a vehicle’s ECU. Without one, well, the results are apparent.

To make matters worse, this is a trend on social media. The so-called “KIA Boyz” are stealing cars and posting videos to YouTube, and there’s even a “Kia Challenge” [trend on TikTok](#). You can’t make this stuff up.

The problem began in Milwaukee in 2021 but is now spreading to more regions and gaining popularity thanks to social media. Several teenagers were [recently arrested in Jacksonville](#) and charged with grand theft auto, and the teens said they boosted the vehicle after seeing it online.

Thankfully, Hyundai and KIA are aware of the situation and have since fixed the problem for all 2022 models. However, that doesn’t help owners with older vehicles worried about their cars getting stolen.

*Update, 2/15/23: This week, Hyundai announced a [free anti-theft software upgrade](#) for owners susceptible to car jacks from the viral challenge. This includes a new sticker, longer alarms, and requires a physical key even on keyless start vehicles. More models will receive updates in the future, and you can learn more on the [Hyundai website](#).*

## **\*NASA CALLING FOR AMATEUR RADIO HELP\***

*NASA SCIENCE* Feb 16

Ham Radio operators, we’re calling you! Members of the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) will be making radio contacts during the 2023 and 2024 North American eclipses, probing the Earth’s ionosphere. It will be a fun, friendly event with a competitive element—and you’re invited to participate.

Both amateur and professional broadcasters have been sending and receiving radio signals around the Earth for over a century. Such communication is possible due to interactions between our Sun and the ionosphere, the ionized region of the Earth's atmosphere located roughly 80 to 1000 km overhead. The upcoming eclipses (October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024) provide unique opportunities to study these interactions. As you and other HamSCI members transmit, receive, and record signals across the radio spectrum during the eclipse, you will create valuable data to test computer models of the ionosphere.

For more information, go to <https://hamsci.org/festivals-eclipse-ionospheric-science>  
More about solar eclipses: <https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eclipses/home/>

Editor Note: Not a surprise but there is a Solar Eclipse QSO Party already planned <https://hamsci.org/seqp-faqs> . The QSO Party starts a few hours before and a few after so scientists can study the effects of the event on HF communications. Can't think of a better way to participate. I will try to remember to repost this when the events gets closer. Maybe someone can remind me.

### **\*MAKING A SMALL REGULATED POWER SUPPLY\***

Ralph Bilal

There are times when we need a well regulated low wattage power supply. Say, no more than 15 watts. This is good for operating a hand held transceiver, antenna analyzer, trickle chargers, audio amps, relays and more. What can you use and what parts work well?

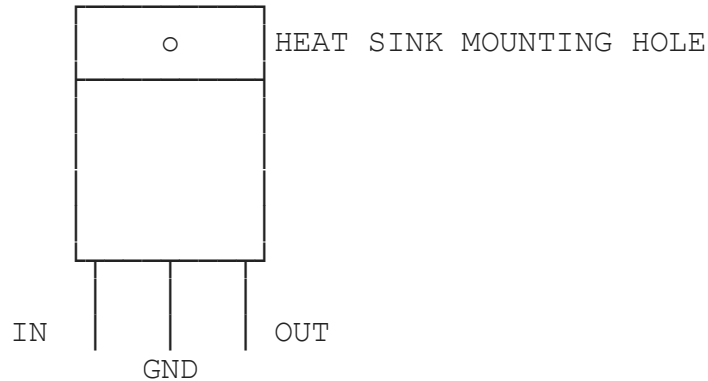
There are several solid state regulator devices. To start, the easiest to use is the LM78xx or LM79xx series. You find these as low as 50 cents each. These will handle 1 to 1.5 amps at the voltage you select.

If you want a + voltage, then select the LM78xx series. A - voltage, the LM79xx series. The xx is the voltage desired. A LM7805 will supply a 5 volt + source. A LM7905 provides a 5 volt - source.

These devices are normally a TO-220 case. What is that?

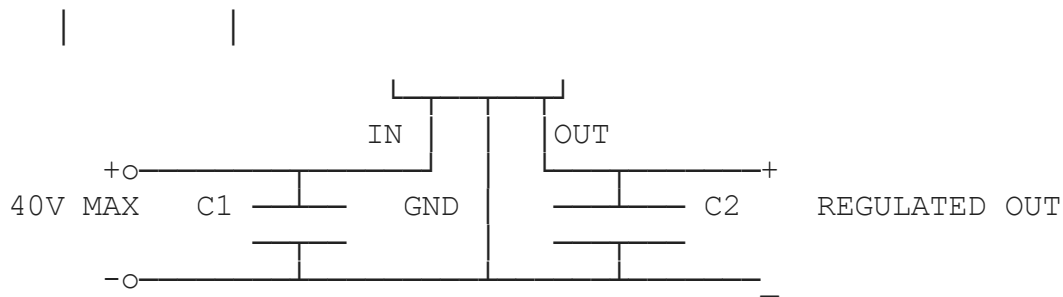
This is a case of a flat rectangular wafer, about 3/8" width, 5/8" length and 3/16" thick. It is made to mount on a heat sink, however for currents within its range, the heat sinks are seldom used.

There are 3 leads coming out the 3/8" side of the wafer. If you position the wafer so the lettering is toward you and the leads are down, it is easy to determine the function of each lead. The lead to your left is the Input. The center lead connects to Ground or the opposite polarity. The right lead is your regulated Output.



**FIGURE 1**

The "IN" lead can be supplied with as high as 40 volts. This will need to be a rectified voltage with a + polarity for the 78 series. A small transformer or wall wart can be used. If a transformer is used, a full wave rectifier should be next in the circuit. This voltage can be filtered with an electrolytic capacitor of at least 500 mf (C1) across the rectifier.



**FIGURE 2**

The "OUT" lead should have a filter capacitor (C2) of 1,000 mf or more.

This simple circuit will provide you with a very stable and smooth rectified voltage of your selection.

73,  
Ralph WD0EJA  
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Editor: Ralph has made a video explaining how his antennas work:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1m0hTGaWB82cVcB4QOaqu-MI7qO-TSbaR/view?usp=drivesdk>

## **\*ANDROID 14 TO BLOCK ANCIENT APPS\***

*GIZMODO* by Florence Ion

The next version of Android isn't due out until late this year, but it's as good a time as any to start sniffing around for what's to come. A recent edit to the [Android 14 source code](#) shows that Google is working on stricter API requirements to prevent Android users from installing old apps. It'll be a boon for security but a bummer for Android diehards who prefer to finetune their smartphone experience through sideloading.

[9to5Google](#) discovered that Android 14, by default, will block any apps targeted toward especially old versions of Android, with the plan being to start with the oldest versions and work up to block apps all the way through Android 6. If an app developer—even an independent one—isn't writing their app to more recent source code than that, Android will deny installation. It looks like device makers will be able to make the block more lenient (by allowing apps aimed at some older versions but not others) or disable it entirely, but the base install you'll get on Pixel devices will have it fully enabled.

This should make Android feel more secure, especially from [malicious apps](#) that use ancient exploits to gain access to sensitive parts of the source code. Android 6 is the baseline because it was the first time Google required apps to ask for access to your contacts, location information, and internal storage. The nastier apps out there tend to target earlier versions of Android to circumvent this.

The Android mobile operating system has been around for a long time. But due to its openness and tinkerability, it's developed a bit of a reputation for being risky to use if

you're not fully aware of its follies. That's not good for Google, which is why the company seems to be constantly working to reduce that stigma through new features—and why it wants you only to download apps vetted through the Play Store. With the next version of Android, you might not get as much freedom as you're used to when installing apps you found on the web. But maybe this means Apple can finally stop using sideloading as an excuse for why Android is less safe than iOS.

### **\*GIGAPARTS WILL DISTRIBUTE FLEX RADIOS\***

News release, Austin, Texas—February 10, 2023:

FlexRadio Systems, a global leader in software defined radio and HF communications, announced today that they have extended their distribution channel for Genius line products through a new agreement with GigaParts, Inc. for the North American market. Since its founding in 1998, GigaParts has catered to the tech community by offering a wealth of products to equip anyone who considers themselves to be a “learner” of all things tech. Effective immediately, the agreement provides GigaParts with the rights to resell FlexRadio’s Power Genius XLTM, Tuner Genius XLTM and associated accessories. The Genius Series will make its GigaParts debut at Orlando Hamcation on February 10th, where it will be available for immediate purchase. “GigaParts’ customer reach will allow FlexRadio to strengthen its presence in the high power, amateur amplifier market”, stated Lori Hicks, VP of Sales and Marketing for FlexRadio. “Their history in the electronics and computer industries makes them an ideal partner for selling our network-based solution offerings and we look forward to growing our business together.” For further details on the Genius product portfolio, please visit [www.flexradio.com](http://www.flexradio.com).

### **\*THIEVES USING TECHNOLOGY TO COPY KEY FOBS SIGNAL\***

MIAMI (CBS News Miami) – May 2012

North Miami police have recently seen isolated incidents of cars being broken into or stolen, while the owner's key fob sits inside their home. Those incidents happened in the Keystone and Sans Souci neighborhoods.

"We had a few isolated accounts of people saying that their vehicles were taken or compromised, broken into, and their keys are still with them. In doing our research we figured out what is enabling people to get into vehicles like that," said North Miami Police Major Kessler Brooks.

Brooks explained how the criminals pull this off. He told said that this is a two-man job that can be done in less than one minute.

One person will scan the targeted home with a device to locate a key fob. Once they lock in a signal, they will transmit that to another person who is waiting near the car. Depending on the strength, the criminals can break into or even steal the vehicle.

"It's happening everywhere. This is not a North Miami problem, this is not a Dade County problem, it's happening across the nation and abroad," said Brooks.

Police recommend buying an RFID pouch online that can block the signal a key fob emits. They said the more walls between your key fob and your car the better protected you are.

David Salazar bought the pouches after hearing about car thefts.

"I bought them for my wife and my daughter just to be safe and we've been using them. We haven't had any issues here but, we know in Keystone and in other areas, people had issues with break-ins, people searching through their cars and taking valuables," he said.

Salazar said he was stunned when he learned what was happening. "Yeah, you feel kind of violated that they'll take advantage of those situations and use technology to their benefit," he said.

If you think you have been a victim of a crime like this, pick up the phone and call your local police department.

From your editor: They use a laptop to get the signal. How they read the RFID from the key fob and retransmit was not shown or talked about on the news broadcast.

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### **\*CLUB MEETING and ZOOM\***

The meeting time is 1100 on Saturday morning at the Lurie Civic Building 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 in front the Chamber building but double parking is fine since we will be able to find the owner to move his vehicle if necessary. Alternately if you go another 100 yards past you can park in the college parking lot. Below is the Zoom information, same as last month. The ZOOM meeting is limited to 40 minutes so I will start it early and restart it to cover the whole meeting.

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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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**\*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
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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 <sup>RD</sup> 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 Brandon
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 <a href="https://winlinkwednesday.net/reminder.html">https://winlinkwednesday.net/reminder.html</a>	

### 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 Pinellas Co
2000 53.150 -1MHz 146.2	Wormhole	from Pinellas Co
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
<b>FRIDAY</b>		
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
<b>SATURDAY</b>		
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
<b>SUNDAY</b>		
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

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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. If you want to see anything here and you are coming to the meeting let the seller know, maybe he can bring it.

FOR SALE,

See Bill AG4QX for the following: most from SK estate, make me an offer.

- \*Heathkit HW-101 Transceiver \$40 looks rough
- \*Heathkit HD-1215 Phone patch \$15 looks ok
- \*Drake WV-5 wattmeter \$90 looks ok
- \*Heath Cantenna dummy load, 1 gal oil load, \$50

This stuff is from Ray KD4HUW

- \*Icom AH-4 antenna tuner \$175.00
- \*MFJ-616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer \$90.00

Dean W8IM wants to make room in his closet.

352-255-1431 or w8im @arrl.net or the Wormhole and SPA\*RC nets

- \*Meade 2080AT -LNT refracting telescope, little used original owner, original box, tripod, manual, some extra lenses, complete. \$100.00.

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## \*HAMFESTS\*

### 2023

- March 18** Zephyrhills, ZAARC Tailgate, St Elizabeth Episcopal Church  
5855 16<sup>th</sup> Street, 8am to 12pm, setup at 7am, \$5 at the door, 146.910 146.2,  
contact Ccharles at [ke7uth@arrl.net](mailto:ke7uth@arrl.net), more at <https://zaarc.org/Hamfest-2023.pdf>
- March 18-90** 2023 MS Citrus Tour, charity bike ride for MS, Champions Gate, Omni Hotel. Radio operators and other volunteers always needed. Goto <http://www.citrustour.org/> for more information.
- April 8** Dade City, EPARS Tailgate, 37745 Church Ave, \$5 buyers, \$10 sellers, talkin 146.880 - 146.2,

- April 15** **TARCFest** TARC Clubhouse, 22<sup>nd</sup> St at the river, \$5 entry including tailgate, a few inside tables reserved in advance, talkin on 147.105 +146.2, license testing after, more info at <http://hamclub.org/>
- April 29-30** **Florida QSO Party** <https://floridaqsoparty.org/>
- April 29** New Port Richey, Gulf Coast ARC, Millenium 10005 Ridge Road, \$5, talkin on 146.670 - 146.2, contact Al at [aj4ja@icloud.com](mailto:aj4ja@icloud.com) for more info
- May 19-21** **Xenia, Ohio, Dayton Hamfest**, tickets \$30 at the door, tailgate \$30, 10x10 booth \$705
- May 27** **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> .
- August 19** **TARCFest** TARC Clubhouse, 22<sup>nd</sup> St at the river, \$5 entry including tailgate, a few inside tables reserved in advance, talkin on 147.105 +146.2, license testing after, more info at <http://hamclub.org/>
- October 21** Bradenton, MARCIFest 2023, 2113 Morgan Johnson Road, talkin 146.820 – 100.0, for more info goto <https://www.manatee-arc.org/> contact Michael Ryan K4CVL at 941-376-6453
- December 8 & 9** **Plant City, the 2023 Tampa Bay Hamfest and West Central Florida Section Convention**, Friday and Saturday, at the Strawberry Festival grounds, admission \$10, 16x40ft tailgate space \$10, electric \$10, 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 ;-)
- 2024**
- February 9-11** **Orlando Hamcation**, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive, Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 after Dec 21 and at the door. Talk-in 146.760 - PL 103.5 analog or Fusion. Also D-Star is on 146.820 -, all the information at [www.hamcation.com](http://www.hamcation.com) or call 407-841-0874. There is also an AM low power Information Station on AM 610.

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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://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
Late May	Dayton Hamfest
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>
September	Run for All Children's
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, the Vice President position is open, Treasurer is Jim KD4MZL, Paul KA4IOX is the Secretary, Dee N4GD is the Repeater Trustee and Mike KV0OOM is our 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-2X. 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

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