

147.165 + (136.5 Hz) 443.500 + (127.3 Hz)

**Feliz Navidad      Ğojan Kristnaskon      С РОЖДЕСТВОМ ХРИСТОВЫМ**

# ANTENNA

**The Brandon Amateur Radio Society Newsletter**

**Merry Christmas      عيد ميلاد سعيد**

**Joyeux Noël**

---

OVER 41 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE BRANDON AREA  
BRANDON, FLORIDA, USA

VOL XLV, NUMBER 12 DECEMBER 2018

### No Club Meeting This Month!!

### Come to the Eating Meeting Next Month on 17 January 2019

The annual Eating Meeting will be on the third Thursday in January at the Golden Corral 815 Providence Road in Brandon. Folks should show up at 7 p.m. Cost per person is about \$12 not including beverage and taxes. Come on out for socializing, fun, and FOOD as we honor the outgoing officers and club workers and thank the new officers for volunteering to serve.

It is always a great time to just sit with fellow hams, chow down, and enjoy the friendly atmosphere that we always have at the January eating meetings.

We will provide a reminder about the eating meeting in the January 2019 newsletter.



-30-

### Amateur Operator of the Month Jeff Dick (KA4OXQ)

Jeff was born in New Haven, Connecticut. He grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina. He met his wife Bitsy in Kindergarten. They dated years later in High School and later married. They celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary earlier this year! They have three daughters and four grandchildren (3 boys and a girl).

Jeff graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill with a degree in Journalism. He worked as an Investigative Reporter for the Winston Salem Journal. He later became a Special Investigator with the US Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. After that, he was a Public Relations Manager for the City of Raleigh, a Regional Public Affairs Manager for Weyerhaeuser, and a Public Relations Manager for General



Electric, first in the Mobile Communications Division, and then later in the GE Major Appliance Group. Jeff has lived in many places but has spent the most time in Raleigh, NC, Charleston, SC, and Louisville, KY. He retired and moved to Riverview in 2013.

Jeff is a voracious reader. His favorite author is Michael Connelly, author of the Harry Bosch Mysteries (in book form and now on Amazon video). He collects mementos from places he visits, and he also enjoys photography. Jeff is an avid Cribbage player who has played competitively in several national tournaments.

## **Jeff KA4OXQ**

And now for a few bullet points:

Top few things on your bucket list:

1. Visit Normandy and various World War II sites.
2. Write a book.

Favorite Quotations: "If I had to live my life over again, I would still do all the things that didn't work out, but I would do them earlier." - Anonymous.

Tell about a significant mentor in your life: "My boss during my seven years at Weyerhaeuser, Keith Lamb, taught me how to be daring, to make bold decisions, and to always be honest with cohorts."

Tell about some accomplishments of which you are proud: "I picked the right woman to marry!" Jeff is also proud of the fact that he learned and was responsible for celestial navigation during a cruise from Morehead City, North Carolina to Hamilton, Bermuda and back in a 41 foot sailboat.

How and when did you become interested in amateur radio? "I first was exposed to amateur radio while in Junior High School. I became interested after reading about Thomas Edison and after reading the Hardy Boys book collection. I became licensed in October of 1980 and now hold a General license."

When did you join BARS? 2014.

Jeff has a Yaesu DX 3000 base station and an Alinco DJ-500 Hand held. With the base station, he uses a Tarheel Junior antenna and a 6 meter stick antenna. He works 2m, 6m, 15m, 17m, and 20 m. Early in his radio avocation, he did mostly Morse Code, but now he uses Phone mode.

Jeff says: "I want to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for the support that I have received from everyone from BARS who assisted me with my antennas, my radios, and with transportation. It is appreciated."

Jeff was recently elected to be BARS Secretary in 2019. If you see Jeff, thank him for stepping up to be willing to serve as an Officer in our club.

-30-

## **K4TN-UHF-Antenna Replacement**

by Ron Perrett K4FZU



The K4TN-UHF antenna project, at the Lithia Pinecrest Fire Department, occurred on Monday December 3rd, beginning around Noon. This was a shared event between Ray Negron - WA6KDW, for his personal repeater, and B.A.R.S. members. It was a beautiful day, but a bit windy. Combine a commercial tower maintenance and antenna crew, three antenna candidates, and some official club observers (repeater committee) and you have a party. This was our long awaited UHF repeater antenna maintenance event, combining removal and replacement of 20 year old antennas.

The process was to remove old VHF dipole-bay antennas and an aged UHF collinear, followed by inspection of mountings, cables and connections - of course you just know one of the tower-top connectors was bad and needed surgery. The efficient antenna crew, two up and two down, worked efficiently in moderate winds to make repairs and clear the tower top. Then, bracket assembly tasks and up with the new antennas. One-by-one they were professionally installed and connected, each receiving a long-life instruction lecture and blessing from the tower-top team. As final antenna cable connections were completed and sealed, each antenna was given the required RF/VSWR test treatment, with satisfaction was achieved. Completed were the change-out of the K4TN 443.500 MHz UHF antenna, to a new 8dB gain collinear, and replacements for WA6KDW's UHF and 900 MHz systems. A computer model coverage map was generated for expected K4TN coverage, and field verification is ongoing. Before and after testing measurements seem to confirm that the new antenna is about 1 dB better than the old. It is hoped the event will facilitate lots of Amateur QSO's and many years of operational enjoyment.

-30-

## 2018 Summer Field Day Results

Dana Perrin KM4DTJ

This past Summer, 36 BARS members participated in the ARRL Field Day. We all had a blast. Below are some of the results of our efforts. We were classified as a class 2A station in the West Central Florida Section, part of the Southeast Division. We made 537 contacts and earned 2,780 points. This gave us the following rankings:

98th place overall in Class 2A. There were 328 stations classified 2A.

4th place in the Southeast Division. There were 20 stations classified 2A in the S.E Division.

2nd place in the West Central Florida Section. There were 5 2A stations in the WCF Section.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!!!**



-30-

## Winter Field Day January 26 - 27, 2019 Richard Jones KW4MB

A group of BARS members will gather this January to participate in the Winter Field Day event. Here are the details:

- WHO:** All amateur operators, especially BARS members, are invited to participate.
- WHAT:** Winter Field Day, sponsored by the Winter Field Day Association.  
<https://www.winterfieldday.com/>
- WHEN:** Set up starts at noon on Saturday, January 26th.  
QSOs begin at 2 pm, Saturday, January 26th.  
We will run until we are out of steam ... or ...  
when the contest ends, at 2 pm Sunday, January 27th.
- WHERE:** At the home of Richard Jones: 4721 Lighterwood Way, Valrico, FL
- WHY:** It's an event to allow you to test your emergency communication skills...  
AND to have some fun with other members of YOUR Club.
- CONTACT:** Richard Jones (KW4MB)

813-758-2203    rjones17@verizon.net

We had a great time last year:



COME JOIN IN THE COMRADERIE!!!

That's it for this month. Have a Merry and Joyful Christmas and have fun with radio!

-30-

**Keep in Mind Our Weekly Nets and Bulletins**

**Monday 8 p.m. The Two Meter Net 147.765 - 147.165 MHz Hosted by Doris Haskell WB9VDT**

**Tuesday 7 p.m. 6-meter Roundtable 50.200 MHz USB followed at 8 p.m. with the 10 Meter Roundtable 28.365 MHz USB**

**Send us your articles AND PICTURES! We do much more in the digital format! I would like to have pictures of BARS members and their ham shacks!**

**Remember to check out the BARS website:**

**[brandonhamradio.org](http://brandonhamradio.org)**