

The HIARC Bulletin

November 2017 Edition

The Official Bulletin of the Harris-Intersil Amateur Radio Club

Club Meetings: Second Thursday of Every Month at Meemaw's Barbecue on Babcock Street between Palm Bay Road and Port Malabar Road. Supper is at 6:00 PM, and a short business meeting is at 7:00 PM. Our programs start around 8:00 PM.

Club Station: The club station is K4HRS in Building 15, Room 321. E-mail Butch to sign up.

Nets: The South Brevard Emergency Net meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM local on the 146.85 Mc repeater.

HIARC Website: <http://qsl.net/hiarc>

Repeaters: 145.47 Mc, tone 107.2 cycles, elevation 170 feet, Melbourne

HIARC Web Site: www.qsl.net/hiarc.

Officers: President: Francis ("Butch"), WA4AQV

Treasurer: Bill WA4EMU

Secretary: Jim, KC7SSW

Repeater Chairmen: Bud W4HXP

Program Chairman: Eric N4SCS

Field Day Chairman: TBD

Sunshine Officer: Open

Club Jester: Ken N8KH

Membership:

Dues are \$12.00 per year to:

Bill WA4EMU

Annual Events: Annual swap-fest at the September meeting. Field Day (always the fourth full weekend in June) at Grant Community Center Fairgrounds, Field Day web site link

<https://sites.google.com/site/hiarcfieldday2013/>

Selected Hamfests:

Okeechobee, 11-25-17. Friendly country hamfest with good deals. <http://k4oke.com>

Orlando, University Of Central Florida, January 13, 2018 <http://www2.mmae.ucf.edu/wiki/Tailgate>

Orlando, 2-9-17 One of the biggest in the US www.hamcation.com

Stuart 3-17-17, free, easy drive down I-95, www.stuarthamfest.com

Ham Radio Lunches:

Every Friday, 10:30 AM till 12:30 PM or so, Golden Corral on Palm Bay Road in Palm Bay

Every Friday, 9:00 AM till 11:00AM or so, Umpa's Diner, 1115 N Courtenay Pkwy, Merritt Island, FL 3295, (321) 454-3422

President's Message

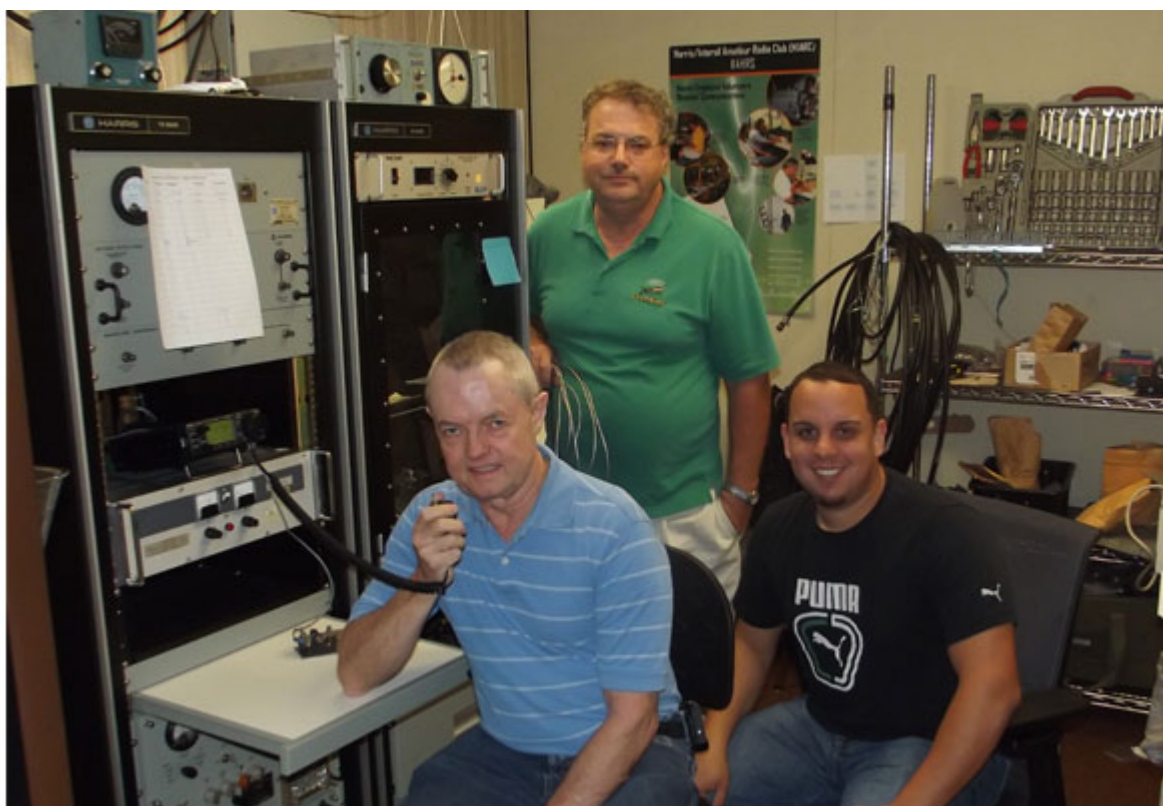
Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted at the Melbourne Hamfest. The Melbourne Hamfest sold 1070 tickets this year. Indoors was active Friday and Saturday.

The next HIARC meeting is this Thursday November 9 at Meemaw's Barbecue on Babcock Street. The program will be by Dan W1ZZ who runs the amateur radio products company Paradan Radio. He will show us the unique Paradan Radio products and teach us what it is like to run an amateur radio business. 6:00 PM starts dinner and 7:00 PM is the club meeting. Lots of food, friends, fun and door prizes too.

73's

Butch WA4AQV

HIARC Assistance to Puerto Rico



(Left to Right) Harris employees Robin Padden, Francis Parsche and Victor Vazquez-Lopez, spent weekends and evenings connecting with radio operators in Puerto Rico via the antenna tower in Building 25 amid the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

Harris Amateur Radio Club Helps Connect Hurricane Ravaged Puerto Rico with Mainland

Space and Intelligence Systems employees were upset to see the destruction and chaos brought on by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. While many donated to relief organizations or participated in the supply drive organized by the Harris Hispanic Resource Group, several SIS employees went a step further, using the antenna tower on Building 25 on the Palm Bay, Florida, campus to make direct

contact with people in Puerto Rico to help relay messages and help bring the power of communication back to the island.

Francis Parsche, a Palm Bay antenna engineer and many others began to turn on their “ham” radios at home following Maria’s landfall.

“Amateur, or ham, radio enthusiasts are frequently called on during emergencies due to the ease of the communication and the fact that they are already in place,” said Francis. “Harris radio amateurs listened carefully to see if they could hear anyone on the island. Eventually they connected with radio operators in Puerto Rico who asked to relay ‘safe and well’ messages to family members on the United States mainland.”

This led to a team effort by the Harris Amateur Radio Club. Harris excels at communication so the operation was held in Building 25. This allowed us to use the large high frequency antenna adjacent the building. Harris radio amateur Robin Padden coordinated the shifts necessary to listen for radio transmissions. Juan Santamaria operated the radio over weekends and Jerry Scott came in at night. To help with the language diversity, the Harris Hispanic Resource Group joined the Harris radio operators on their shifts to relay family messages. Henry Sucart, Javier Corchado-Liciaga, Wilfredo “Victor” Vazquez, Francisco Torres all donated their time. Security was supportive of the team’s efforts, as well.

After connecting with several radio operators in Puerto Rico, we realized that if we turned the antenna we would most likely reach even more. One operator, Tito, was trying to make contact but was fading in and out because he was literally broadcasting using a wire hanging from a palm tree and his car battery. Even though gas was scarce, Tito was turning his car on every couple of hours to keep the battery charged.

So, Louis Brashear, Engineering Specialist working with Mike Zarro, Electrical Engineer Four, climbed the antenna tower and turned the antenna, enabling the team to talk with Tito and many more operators. The team delivered messages to stateside family members, relayed weather forecasts and information requests to areas such as Lajas and San Germán. The island’s cell towers and radar were destroyed, so its citizens had no way of knowing if there were more storms coming and no way to let their families on the mainland know they were okay.

“The people of Puerto Rico are heroes to me,” said Francis. “Tito in San Germán had his roof blown off and everything in his home destroyed. He used a piece of wire for an antenna with weakening batteries. Yet he was helping communicate to help others for supplies, medical evacuations and lists of who was safe for loved ones. He and other island radio amateurs reached us day after day. I was so proud that Harris enabled our team here to make a difference.”

Once air travel returned to the island, the Red Cross flew 20 amateur radio volunteers into Puerto Rico to assist in communications. One Harris employee, Marty Durham is on the short list of those accepted to fly in.

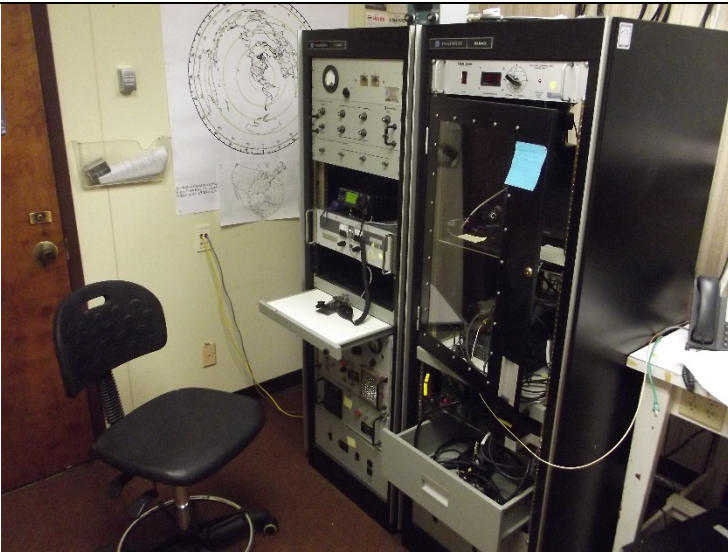
A special thank you to the employees who initiated a critical relief effort for those in need in Puerto Rico.



Engineering Specialist **Louis Brashear** gets ready to climb an antenna tower. It was Louis who turned the Building 25 antenna towards Puerto Rico allowing the weak signals to be heard after Hurricane Maria's devastation.



Employees **Robin Padden** and **Juan Santamaria** listen for messages from radio operators in hurricane ravaged Puerto Rico.



The radio room in Building 25, Palm Bay Florida.

For Sale Items

Rich Abrahams sale items:

The following items of test equipment are still available.

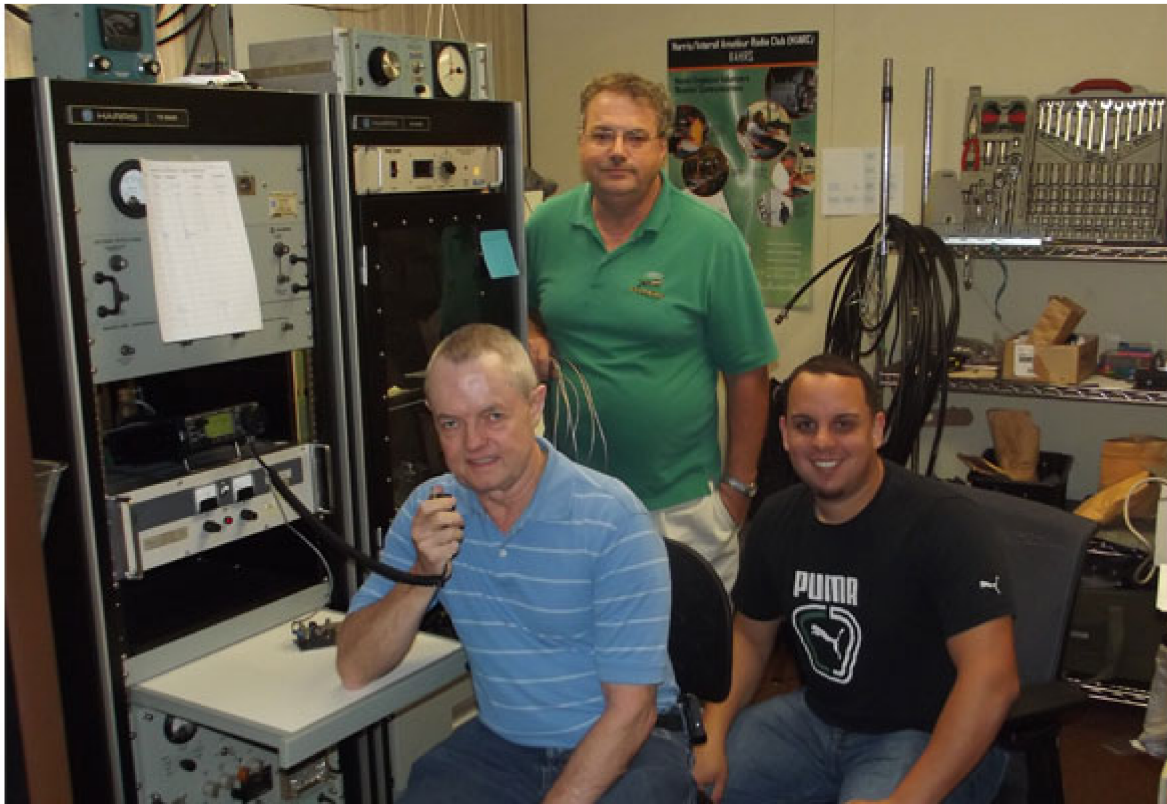
ITEM	MANUF	MODEL	SPECS/condition	PRICE (OBO)
1	TEKTRONIX	465	100 Mhz Dual Channel Scope w/manual& 3 probes (Good display, all functions seem to work)	\$175
2	HEATHKIT	HM-102	RF Power/SWR meter, 1.6-30 Mhz 200/2000 W (tested OK)	\$15
3	BIRD	8341-200	Coaxial Attenuator, 20 dB, 40W, Type N conn dc-1 GHz (tested OK)	\$30
4	THOMSON CSF	109R	Regulated power supply, 13.6 V, 25 A OVR temp/volt/current protection (tested OK)	\$30
5	TRIGON	HR20-10B	Regulated power supply, 0-20 Vdc, 10A (tested OK)	\$40

Contact Bill, WA4EMU if interested

For sale:

1. Ameritron AL-80B HF single 3-500Z amp in excellent condition. (Non-smoker) Amp is about 3 years old. \$750
(includes the original shipping container for the amp and the tube.
2. MFJ-998 1.5KW automatic antenna tuner in very good condition. \$275
3. RigBlaster Advantage (new in box...bought at Hamcation this year. Opted to go with the K3 updated digital card that includes a sound card function) \$165

Marty at W1md@arrl.net



(Left to Right) Harris employees Robin Padden, Francis Parsche and Victor Vazquez-Lopez, spent weekends and evenings connecting with radio operators in Puerto Rico via the antenna tower in Building 25 amid the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

Harris Amateur Radio Club Helps Connect Hurricane Ravaged Puerto Rico with Mainland

Space and Intelligence Systems employees were upset to see the destruction and chaos brought on by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. While many donated to relief organizations or participated in the supply drive organized by the Harris Hispanic Resource Group, several SIS employees went a step further, using the antenna tower on Building 25 on the Palm Bay, Florida, campus to make direct contact with people in Puerto Rico to help relay messages and help bring the power of communication back to the island.

Francis Parsche, a Palm Bay antenna engineer and many others began to turn on their “ham” radios at home following Maria’s landfall.

“Amateur, or ham, radio enthusiasts are frequently called on during emergencies due to the ease of the communication and the fact that they are already in place,” said Francis. “Harris radio amateurs listened carefully to see if they could hear anyone on the island. Eventually they connected with radio operators in Puerto Rico who asked to relay ‘safe and well’ messages to family members on the United States mainland.”

This led to a team effort by the Harris Amateur Radio Club. Harris excels at communication so the operation was held in Building 25. This allowed us to use the large high frequency antenna adjacent the building. Harris radio amateur Robin Padden coordinated the shifts necessary to listen for radio transmissions. Juan Santamaria operated the radio over weekends and Jerry Scott came in at night. To

help with the language diversity, the Harris Hispanic Resource Group joined the Harris radio operators on their shifts to relay family messages. Henry Sucart, Javier Corchado-Liciaga, Wilfredo “Victor” Vazquez, Francisco Torres all donated their time. Security was supportive of the team’s efforts, as well.

After connecting with several radio operators in Puerto Rico, we realized that if we turned the antenna we would most likely reach even more. One operator, Tito, was trying to make contact but was fading in and out because he was literally broadcasting using a wire hanging from a palm tree and his car battery. Even though gas was scarce, Tito was turning his car on every couple of hours to keep the battery charged.

So, Louis Brashear, Engineering Specialist working with Mike Zarro, Electrical Engineer Four, climbed the antenna tower and turned the antenna, enabling the team to talk with Tito and many more operators. The team delivered messages to stateside family members, relayed weather forecasts and information requests to areas such as Lajas and San Germán. The island’s cell towers and radar were destroyed, so its citizens had no way of knowing if there were more storms coming and no way to let their families on the mainland know they were okay.

“The people of Puerto Rico are heroes to me,” said Francis. “Tito in San Germán had his roof blown off and everything in his home destroyed. He used a piece of wire for an antenna with weakening batteries. Yet he was helping communicate to help others for supplies, medical evacuations and lists of who was safe for loved ones. He and other island radio amateurs reached us day after day. I was so proud that Harris enabled our team here to make a difference.”

Once air travel returned to the island, the Red Cross flew 20 amateur radio volunteers into Puerto Rico to assist in communications. One Harris employee, Marty Durham is on the short list of those accepted to fly in.

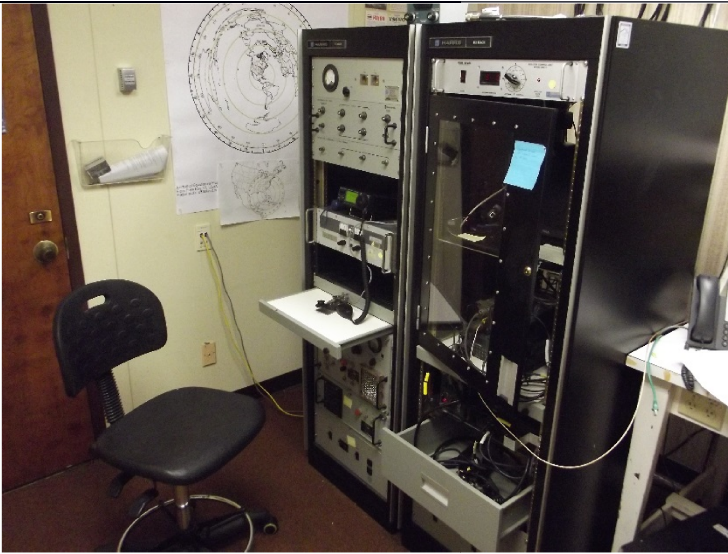
A special thank you to the employees who initiated a critical relief effort for those in need in Puerto Rico.



Engineering Specialist **Louis Brashear** gets ready to climb an antenna tower. It was Louis who turned the Building 25 antenna towards Puerto Rico allowing the weak signals to be heard after Hurricane Maria’s devastation.



Employees **Robin Padden** and **Juan Santamaria** listen for messages from radio operators in hurricane ravaged Puerto Rico.



The radio room in Building 25, Palm Bay Florida.