



75

SPARC Years



GAP



St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2217 St. Petersburg, Fl. 333731
January February March 2008



Leslie's Ham Radio Bio to go with the pictures on page 3

I was first licensed in December, 1961~got my Novice and Technician at the same time...I had fun building my Novice rig: Heathkit HX-11. Wonder of wonders, it worked well!! Immediately got on 6 Meters with a Clegg 99'er (8 watts) and enjoyed the many 6 Meter openings at the time...and before long, the contest bug bit, and I entered the 1963 CQ World Wide VHF Contest...came in first in the Florida section...no computers in those days, and I recall spending many, many hours getting that log prepared for submission!

Got my General in 1977..13 wpm code and all, at the Orlando Hamfest that year...I automatically tried to adjust the key, and it all fell apart...talk about embarrassment and stress!! Fortunately, the examiner was a cool dude, and I got back on track! Had a long layoff from ham radio from about 1978 until 1999 (too busy working!!)...then Jim, W4APV talked my OM Roger(K4SHI) into setting up a station again, I heard HC8N on 10m, worked him, and I was off to the races.

My main radio enjoyment comes from rag-chewing and paper-chasing...also enjoy working towards many different awards, and my casual contesting contributes nicely to that! I had set a goal when I started back up in 1999, to get my basic DXCC by the end of 2000..finished it up on time Dec 18, 2000 (all 10m phone. Still working on it, of course!!

The modes I use are SSB, RTTY, PSK, Hellschreiber(HELL), and a little CW...

Organizations:

SPARC-President

10-10 International Net-Director, member of Contest Committee

070 Club

EPC

Fists

FH Club

WA4EEZ a couple years ago....from

Popular Electronics 1963

73 and stay Radio-Active!
Leslie Johnson WA4EEZ
President, SPARC



ORLANDO HAMCATION 2008

BY AI4QP / TOM

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN ALL FLORIDA HAMS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT TRIP TO ORLANDO FOR THE BIG HAMFEST. IT LOOKS LIKE THIS YEAR TURNED OUT TO BE A GOOD ONE, EVEN THOUGH THE ECONOMY IS NOT AT ITS BEST. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TURNED OUT THIS YEAR BUT IT LOOKED PRETTY FULL TO ME. I SAW A LOT OF FOLKS OVER THERE FROM ST PETE AND IT LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE HAVING A GREAT TIME. THE WEATHER WAS OUTSTANDING. THE RAIN HELD OFF AND LET PEOPLE ENJOY THE TAILGATE SECTION AND THE OVERALL EVENT.

I RAN INTO ROGER / K4SHI AND HE ASKED IF I SAW LESLIE? I SAID TO ROGER "HAVE YOU LOST HER ALREADY?" HE LAUGHED AND SAID HE LEFT HER AT THE 10-10 BOOTH SO I HEADED OVER THERE AND SHE WAS STILL THERE AND HELPING OUT ALL SHE COULD. I DIDN'T RUN INTO ANYONE WHO HAD FOUND THE DEAL OF A LIFETIME, BUT ALL SEEMED HAPPY WITH WHAT THEY HAD.

I WENT OUT TO THE FOOD AREA AT 11:00, BUT I GUESS EVERYONE WAS SPREAD OUT TOO MUCH TO GATHER FOR A PICTURE AT THAT TIME BUT MAYBY SOME GOT TOGETHER FOR ONE. SHORTLY AFTER THAT I WAS ABOUT WALKED OUT SO I WAS READY TO HEAD BACK TO ST. PETE. I REALLY DIDN'T NEED TO GO OVER THERE FOR ANYTHING SPECIAL BUT I LIKE LOOKING AT THE NEW EQUIPMENT AND DREAMING ANYWAY.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO HAM RADIO AND HAVE NEVER MADE THE TRIP OVER TO ORLANDO FOR THE HAMCATION, IT IS AN EVENT WORTH GOING TO JUST TO SEE WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS.

TILL NEXT YEAR--73'S AI4QP / TOM

SPARC Members at Orlando Hamfest



Leslie at 10-10 Booth



SPARC Meetings

First Friday every month, 7:30 pm

and

**Testing*: Third Tuesday every month 6:30 pm

at the Red Cross Bldg,

818 Fourth Street North

St. Petersburg

Some Members meet for Breakfast

Every Saturday, 7:00 am

At the

Biff Burger 49th St. & 38th Ave. N. St. Pete



**contact* Connie K4TBZ at 727-528-0071

SPARC Purpose:

1. To further and promote the social benefits and technical advancement of the radio arts.
2. To acquire, organize, establish and maintain facilities for social and emergency communication, both mobile and stationary.
3. To assist and cooperate with authorized agencies in any emergency of local, state or national scope.
4. To further fellowship among radio amateurs, potential radio amateurs and other parties interested in amateur radio.

Station of Leslie WA4EEZ



Current HF station consists of:

Icom 756 Pro II

Kent Keyer

RigBlaster Interface to Dell Computer

Dipoles for 80-20m

A-99'er Vertical for 10,12,and 15m

Homebrew J-Pole for 6m (thanks, Roger!)

Collins 30 L-1 Linear- will be put into use one of these days...!!

VHF Station:

Kenwood TM-271A ()

Alinco DR 235 (220)

HB Dual Band Collinear ant for 2m/440

HB 220 J-Pole

Software:

Logging Program: ProLog2K

MixW for digital modes

Digipan v.2.0 for back-up (for when I goof up MixW!!)

Photos of present station.

Upcoming Events

Chester Tailgate 7AM till ...when everyone leaves

2008

8 March (METRO)

10 May (OPEN)

12 July (SPARC)

13 September (WORMHOLE)

8 November (American Victory Ship)

Chester Electronic Supply

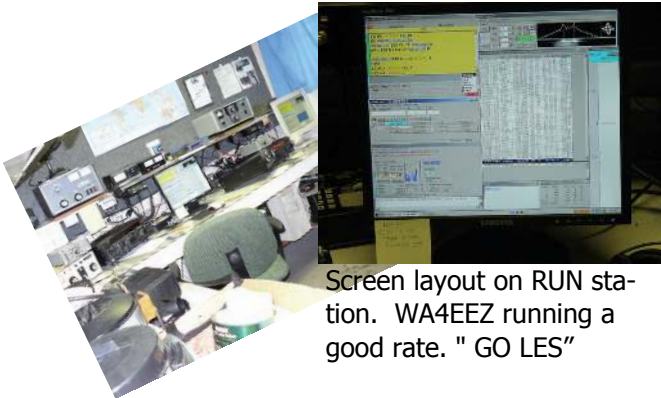
311 Missouri Ave. N. Largo, FL 33770 Ph 727-585-4736

Hamfest

May 4, 2008

Lake Maggiore Park Hamfest/Tailgate sponsored by SPARC

ARRL RTTY Roundup Pic's



Screen layout on RUN station. WA4EEZ running a good rate. "GO LES"



Last 2 hours of the contest. Leslie, WA4EEZ, on the RUN station and Dave, KR4U working the MULT station. W4CU, helping Leslie with N1MM program and Pete, KB9LXM, watching master Dave at work.

**A MULT ... a bell ringer
.... good job Dave**

**Pic's and comments by
Ron KP2N**

W4GAC before the contest. All setup and ready to go.

ELMERS

Specialty	Name	Call	Contact Information
Digital, CW, and Antennas	Dave Trewin	KR4U	trewins@aol.com
PSK	Wendy Kincaid	KB1AF	kb1af@yahoo.com
RTTY, Repeaters	Ron Hall	KP2N	kp2n@arrl.net
HF, 10-10	Leslie Johnson	WA4EEZ	wa4eez@verizon.net

Contest/Operating Event Corner

Next scheduled W4GAC Contests

Florida QSO Party April 26 & 27, 2008

Contests completed at W4GAC:

ARRL RTTY Roundup Jan. 5 & 6 2008

1033 QSO's - Multipliers 106 - Total Score 109,489 Points

Operators were KP2N, KR4U, N2ESP, N4RI, VE3XD, WA4EEZ (All FCG Members) KB9LXM, N1XX, N4OJ (Non FCG Members).

Comment from KP2N: Our best effort yet. Reached our pre-contest goals of 1000 Q's and 100,000 points. No equipment or operator failures. Know of several things to do next year. Had great fun ringing the multiplier bell. Yes a real bell. Leslie, WA4EEZ, said her mother use to ring that bell to roundup the kids.

CQWW RTTY WPX Feb. 9 & 10 2008

1242 QSO's - Total Score 1,829,370 Points

Operators were KP2N, N2ESP, KB9LXM, NP2W (Bernie a friend of K2PN visiting the area) used VE3XD/W4 as the contest call and operated 28 hours of the allocated 48.

NAQP RTTY Contest Feb. 23 & 24 2008

690 QSO's - Multipliers 133 - Total Score 91,770 Points

Operators were KP2N, KR4U, N2ESP, N4RI, VE3XD, KB9LXM, W4CU

Soapbox: Two 80 Meter radials were added to our 40 Meter 1/4 wave vertical and we used an automatic antenna tuner at the base of the antenna. This combination provided excellent results on 80 meters and several of the higher bands.

We operated the entire 12 hours of the event. We had 2 stations on the air at all times using bandpass filters and isolation stubs fabricated from RG8 coaxial cable. Neither radio had any interference from the other station. Our contesting efforts are making W4GAC a force to be reckoned with!

GO SPARC

Thanks to all who participated.

73 de Dave KR4U SPARC Contest Group

Picture Gallery



SPARC members at Florida Contest Group (FCG) meeting in Orlando

The room was full and overflowing

During the Orlando Hamcation the Florida Contest Group had a lunch meeting at the Golden Corral Restaurant at noon on Saturday. There were 69 members present and SPARC was well represented by Leslie WA4EEZ, Scott N4RI, Tom W4CU with XYL Joy, and Dave KR4U with XYL Veronika KC4YAW. It was an excellent meeting and every one had a very enjoyable time. We are looking forward to next years event.

Club Officers for 2008

President

Leslie Johnson WA4EEZ
president@sparc-club.org

Vice President

Pete Peterson KB9LXM
vice-president@sparc-club.org

Secretary

Bob Entwistle N1XX
secretary@sparc-club.org

Treasurer

Ron Hall KP2N
treasurer@sparc-club.org

Board Members

Linda Saunders, KI4RV

Richard Stephens, N4BUA
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Bill Zulas WZ4GW
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Repeater Trustee

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trustee@sparc-club.org

Net Manager

Pete Secrist WB2SUN
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Club Station Trustee

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Web Master

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Newsletter Editor

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Past President

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