



FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

NEWSLETTER

Volume IX Issue 1

<http://florida-repeaters.org>

July 2001

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ray Kassis, N4LEM

There are less than 2% of the 1000+ repeaters the FRC has in its data base that have problems. Over the years the Directors and staff have worked to solve most conflicts. I can say that the FRC today seems to be running smoothly. Thanks to all repeater operators for being a huge help! Continue to update the data base with any changes and always check first with the data base manager before you make a change. Thank you for supporting the FRC! We want to hear from you. Let your Director know about any problems you are having. The FRC is dedicated to Ham Radio and the use of the amateur repeater service. I believe Florida Hams who are involved with the operation of amateur repeaters are keeping the Life-line of our hobby going strong

73
Ray Kassis
N4LEM
President



Communications is the life blood of the Florida Repeater Council

TREASURERS REPORT

Dana Rodakis, K4LK

Balance 12/13/00:	\$7659.07
Income:	\$2250.00
Expenditures:	\$937.80
Balance 6/30/01:	\$8971.27

Minutes of Orlando Corporate Meeting

**Florida Repeater Council, Inc.
Minutes of Annual Business Meeting
February 10, 2001
Orlando, Florida**

The open forum was started at 1:00 PM on February 10, 2001 by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM. The following staff were in attendance:

Directors in attendance were:

- District 1: Nilo A. Hernandez, W4HN
- District 2: Mark Filla, KS4VT
- District 3: Karen A. Power, KD4DJX
- District 4: Paul Knupke Jr., KR4YL
- District 5:
- District 6: Matthew Bush, KA9RIX
- District 7: Ted Wirick, W7YJC
- District 8: Frank Butler, W4RH

Staff Members in attendance were:

- President: Ray Kassis, N4LEM
- Vice President: Ira R. Bickham Jr., K8HRR
- Secretary/Treasurer: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK
- Database Manager: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK

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SEPTEMBER FRC MEETING

The next meeting of the FRC Board of Directors and Staff will be held at the Melbourne Hamfest on September 8, 2001 at 2:00 P.M.. There will be a workshop prior to the Directors Meeting to allow members to express their opinions and ideas to the Board of Directors.

2001 FRC Directory

PRESIDENT

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VICE PRESIDENT

Ira R. Bickham Jr., K8HRR
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321-453-2309

29/144/222/420/902/1240 MHz COORDINATOR/ DATABASE MANAGER/WEBMASTER/ SECRETARY/TREASURER

Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK
6280 Fairfield Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33707
(H) 727-381-3344
(FAX) 727-381-3344
E-Mail: coordinator@florida-repeaters.org
WebSite: <http://florida-repeaters.org>

6-METER COORDINATOR

Matthew Bush, KA9RIX
237 East Madeira Avenue
Madeira Beach, FL 33708
727-394-9665
E-Mail: 6meter_coord@florida-repeaters.org

DISTRICT #1 DIRECTOR

Nilo A. Hernandez, W4HN
10833 SW 142nd Court
Miami, FL 33186
305-383-8576
E-Mail: director1@florida-repeaters.org
(Dade and Monroe Counties)

DISTRICT #2 DIRECTOR

Mark Filla, KS4VT
20893 LaQuesta Court
Boca Raton, FL 33428-1234
(H) 561-479-0737
(W) 561-233-4417
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(Broward, Martin, and Palm Beach Counties)

DISTRICT #3 DIRECTOR

Karen Power, KD4DJX
2949 Garden Terrace N.E.
Palm Bay, FL 32905
(H) 321-722-9849
(W) 321-777-9195
E-Mail: director3@florida-repeaters.org
(Brevard, Indian River, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties)

DISTRICT #4 DIRECTOR

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11931 92nd Way North
Largo, FL 33773
727-397-8368
E-Mail: director4@florida-repeaters.org
(DeSota, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk Counties)

DISTRICT #5 DIRECTOR

Terry Brinson, W9TT
729 Katherine Street
South Daytona, FL 32119
904-322-4352
E-Mail: director5@florida-repeaters.org
(Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia and Counties)

DISTRICT #6 DIRECTOR

David Armbrust, AE4MR
3024 Salem Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34232
(H) 941-378-1701
(W) 941-922-8857
E-Mail: director6@florida-repeaters.org
(Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, and Sarasota Counties)

DISTRICT #7 DIRECTOR

Edward C. "Ted" Wirick Jr., W4YJC
105 James Court Rt. 2 Box 402
Macclenny, Florida 32063-9564
(H) 904-259-7889
(W) 904-542-5413
E-Mail: director7@florida-repeaters.org
(Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee, and Union Counties)

DISTRICT #8 DIRECTOR

Frank Butler, W4RH
323 Elliott Road SE
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
850-244-5425
E-Mail: director8@florida-repeaters.org
(Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington Counties)

Your Staff and Directors are willing to help you. Please avail yourself of their services.

NOTICE

Please send all certified mail to District 1 Director Nilo Hernandez. He will sign for the mail and forward it to the appropriate staff member in the Council

FRC NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Dana G. Rodakis
FRC Secretary/Treasurer
6280 Fairfield Ave. So.
St. Petersburg, Florida 33707-2323
727-381-3344

2001 DATABASE CHANGES
(12/01/00 through 06/30/01)
(Listed in reverse chronological order)

NEW COORDINATIONS

- 444.000 Sarasota (Sarasota County, District 6)
- 443.250 Ocala (Marion County, District 7)
- 441.700 Winter Haven (Polk County, District 4)
- 146.700 Okeechobee (Okeechobee County, District 3)
- 441.800 Winter Haven (Polk County, District 4)
- 224.800 Winter Haven (Polk County, District 4)
- 147.330 Ocala (Marion County, District 7)
- 224.720 Kendall (Dade County, District 1)
- 224.060 Winter Haven (Polk County, District 4)
- 224.600 Adventura (Dade County, District 1)
- 442.300 Venice (Sarasota County, District 6)
- 444.550 Interlachen (Putnam County, District 7)
- 442.100 Tallahassee (Leon County, District 8)
- 146.835 Sebring (Highlands County, District 6)
- 224.740 Tampa (Hillsborough County, District 4)
- 444.075 New Smyrna Beach (Volusia County, District 5)
- 443.950 Orlando (Orange County, District 5)
- 444.175 Ormond Beach (Volusia County, District 5)
- 444.275 Orlando (Orange County, District 5)
- 146.760 Ft. Myers (Lee County, District 6)
- 442.525 Miami (Dade County, District 1)
- 443.525 Morriston (Levy County, District 7)
- 145.230 West Palm Beach (Palm Beach County, District 2)
- 146.670 Lake Placid (Highlands County, District 6)
- 224.860 Mims (Brevard County, District 3)
- 146.940 Tampa (Hillsborough County, District 4)
- 146.730 Stuart (Martin County, District 3)
- 444.500 Ft. Myers (Lee County, District 6)
- 147.105 Marathon (Monroe County, District 1)
- 444.925 Cocoa (Brevard County, District 3)
- 442.475 Hollywood (Broward County, District 2)
- 146.685 Melbourne (Brevard County, District 3)
- 442.725 Tampa (Hillsborough County, District 4)
- 145.490 Tampa (Hillsborough County, District 4)

CHANGE OF TRUSTEE

- 145.350 West Palm Beach (Palm Beach County, District 2)
- 146.700 Milton (Santa Rosa County, District 8)
- 145.490 Milton (Santa Rosa County, District 8)
- 444.950 Marianna (Jackson County, District 8)
- 147.030 Summerfield (Marion County, District 7)
- 146.670 Marianna (Jackson County, District 8)
- 145.450 Tallahassee (Leon County, District 8)
- 443.400 Tallahassee (Leon County, District 8)
- 147.060 N. Miami Beach (Dade County, District 1)
- 146.940 Panama City (Bay County, District 8)
- 147.060 Winter Park (Orange County, District 5)
- 146.685 Lakeland (Polk County, District 4)

DE-COORDINATIONS (new coordination not issued)

- 223.960 Pompano Beach (Broward County, District 2)
- 1293.10 Miami (Dade County, District 1)
- 441.550 Plantation (Broward County, District 2)
- 146.955 Sarasota (Sarasota County, District 6)
- 146.865 Port St. Lucie (St. Lucie County, District 3)
- 146.700 Ft. McCoy (Marion County, District 7)

APPROVED RELOCATIONS

- 146.850 Milton (Santa Rosa County, District 8)

UNAPPROVED RELOCATIONS

- 145.490 Sumterville (Sumter County, District 5)

FRC Dues

The mailing label shows the year [in brackets] through which your dues are paid. Clip this coupon and mail with your \$10.00 annual dues. Your cancelled check is your receipt. **This coupon is NOT a substitute for your repeater update.**

Name: _____

Callsign: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Repeater callsign: _____

Repeater City: _____

Output frequency(s): _____

Signature: _____

Make checks payable to: Florida Repeater Council

Mail to:

Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK

6280 Fairfield Ave. So.

St. Petersburg, FL 33707-2323

(Meeting Minutes continued from page 1)

President Kassis welcomed all present and explained that the first part of the meeting would be an open format, where anyone could express any thoughts. This portion of meeting would lead into the formal portion of the meeting where no participation by the members would be allowed.

Clyde Rogers, WD4LWG, complained that he sent a repeater update with dues check by certified mail and it was returned. Database Manager Rodakis indicated that he is too busy to retrieve certified mail from the post office and that he would be willing to provide acknowledgement by mail or phone. Considerable discussion followed.

Wally Cashman W4EFK, complained about the 145.490 MHz repeater that was coordinated to his father and have since been omitted from the database due to his father's passing.

Mike Whitmore, WB8ONY, also complained about returned certified mail and indicated that someone in the Council must accept certified mail.

Director Hernandez offered to accept certified mail on behalf of the Council and forward it to the correct person. Clyde Rogers suggested that the originator of the mail receive an acknowledgement from the end recipient by regular mail. President Kassis indicated that a motion would be made during the business meeting to establish a certified mail procedure.

Considerable discussion about the 145.490 MHz repeater in Tampa resumed. Wally submitted a new application and the repeater was restored to coordinated status. Also, Wally mentioned that the upside down repeater 449.600 MHz would have to be rebuilt to invert it. Wally will notify the Council when the repeater conforms to the ARRL band plan and would accept a conditional coordination of necessary. Wally mentioned that he hasn't heard the Orlando 444.6 repeater in a month.

It was mentioned that the 147.075 MHz conditionally-coordinated repeater in Flagler Beach has increased height by 20 feet and has increased power without permission from the Coordinator. This information was mentioned on the air. The Database Manager complained about many other repeaters that have changed technical parameters without permission.

Mike Whitmore, WB8ONY wanted to know how the FRC gets involved in interference complaints that involve the FCC. The Council provides technical information concerning coordinations to the FCC upon request. The Council does not have any rules enforcement authority.

Chuck, N4EHM, of Lake City, mentioned that he submitted

an application for 146.940 that was once in operation at the Boys Ranch in Live Oak, Florida and that the trustee has passed away. Chuck also mentioned that the Boys' Ranch repeater equipment has been removed. Considerable discussion followed including the fact that deceased amateurs often remain in the FCC database until expiration. (COORDINATOR'S NOTE: I HAVE CONVERSED WITH DAVE STOCKY K4KE DURING JUNE 2001, AND HE IS INTERESTED IN RESTORING THE REPEATER TO SERVICE. I HAVE SENT A LETTER TO CHUCK INDICATING THAT HIS REQUEST IS DENIED).

Bill, N4XEO, mentioned that PL tones should be implemented to solve interference cases. Considerable discussion followed concerning voluntary versus mandatory PL usage and the fact that some feel like PL tones are unfriendly. It was suggested that all repeaters should generate PL tones and that it is inexpensive and has numerous benefits. It should not be mandatory. It was suggested by Mike, WB8ONY, that after a certain date, all new coordinations should be contingent upon the repeater encoding a PL tone and that when the next repeater status report is due, existing repeaters be required to encode a PL tone in order to maintain coordination. The Council does not have the authority to require a PL tone.

The business meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM on February 10, 2001 by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM, who determined that a quorum of qualified Directors were in attendance:

Directors in attendance were:

- District 1: Nilo A. Hernandez, W4HN
- District 2: Mark Filla, KS4VT
- District 3: Karen A. Power, KD4DJX
- District 4: Paul Knupke Jr., KR4YL
- District 5:
- District 6: Matthew Bush, KA9RIX
- District 7: Ted Wirick, W7YJC
- District 8: Frank Butler, W4RH

Staff Members in attendance were:

- President: Ray Kassis, N4LEM
- Vice President: Ira R. Bickham Jr., K8HRR
- Secretary/Treasurer: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK
- Database Manager: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Director Hernandez made a motion which was seconded by Director Knupke to approve the minutes of the September 2000 meeting without further reading. They are published on the Council web site and in the December 2000 newsletter. Passed unanimously.

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The secretary mentioned that the December 2000 was mailed 12/18/00. Forty came back undeliverable. They were passed along to the Directors for investigation. The next newsletter will be mailed in mid-July 2001.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The FRC Secretary/Treasurer reported the following accounting:

Opening balance, 10/01/00:	\$ 7,793.90
Expenses:	\$ 124.94
Income:	\$ 1,050.00
Balance: 2/7/00:	\$ 7,918.84

The treasurer mentioned that it might be a good idea to transfer some of this balance to a savings account.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT:

The Council web site receives 20 hits per day. Repeater listings are updated fairly regularly.

DATABASE MANAGER/COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Ten repeaters have been coordinated, and seven have been de-coordinated. There are currently 1,150 repeaters in the database. The data for the next ARRL repeater directory was submitted on-time during the end of November.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Kassis mentioned that all Directors for districts 2, 4, 6, and 8 are due for re-election along with the Council President. President Kassis mentioned that he would entertain a motion to re-elect all four directors unless there is no-one else interested in running. Dave Armbrust, AE4MR indicated that he would be interested in serving district 6. Matt Bush, KA9RIX tendered his resignation as director but would like to continue serving as 6-meter coordinator. Director Power made a motion to re-elect Directors for districts 2, 4, and 8. It was seconded by Director Hernandez. Motion passed.

The meeting was then turned over to Vice President Ira Bickham Jr. who entertained nominations for FRC President. Ray Kassis was nominated for President by Director Hernandez and was seconded by Director Filla. Director Butler moved that the nominations be closed. President Kassis re-elected. President Kassis then entertained a motion to re-appoint Dana Rodakis, K4LK as Secretary, Treasurer, Coordinator, Database Manager, and Webmaster, Matt Bush, KA9RIX as 6-meter coordinator, Dave Armbrust, AE4MR as District 6 Director and Ira Bickham Jr., K8HRR as Vice President. Motion made, seconded and passed.

REPORTS OF DIRECTORS:

District 1: All quiet

District 2: Director Filla reported that he has been contacting

non-reporting trustees and also urged trustees owners to update their repeaters. There are still repeaters in Broward county with 305 area codes. The 146.94 repeater owner renewed his license. The 444.500 repeater is coordinated and operating. The 147.12 repeater in Bellgrade is now on a county tower. The 145.11 interference complaint is being worked. Remove Mark's FAX number in newsletter.

District 3: All quiet

District 4: Director Knupke is working with Wally Cashman on the upside-down repeater issue. He mentioned that he is requesting the Database Manager deleting non-updated inactive coordinations. He urged other Directors to do the same.

District 5: No report

District 6: All quiet

District 7: All quiet

District 8: All quiet

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

President Kassis requested that a motion be made to establish a certified mail procedure. Director Hernandez will accept certified mail. This mail will be forwarded to the intended person by regular mail. Director Power made the motion. It was seconded by Director Butler. No discussion. Motion passed.

The amateur who started the discussion about the benefits of encoding PL on a repeater planned to author an article. It would be available for the next newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM by President Ray Kassis.

Respectfully submitted
Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK
Secretary/Treasurer

MESSAGE FROM THE DATABASE MANAGER

Due to the tremendous growth of Amateur radio, especially 2 meters, there are few (if any) repeater pairs available in most areas in the state. Many of the coordinated repeaters are inactive, or are being used for other purposes, such as simplex autopatches. Some repeaters have no inputs and their outputs are simply re-transmitting other active repeaters simply to generate activity. Some amateurs simply like to hoard repeater pairs for future use. In addition, repeater licensees are relocating their repeaters or increasing the antenna height or output power without authorization from the FRC Coordinators - in direct violation of FRC Co-ordination Policy.

Please notify the appropriate FRC Coordinator (see the Directory of FRC Staff and Directors), if you suspect that a repeater is inactive, is no longer in its coordinated location, has an abnormally large coverage area, has no receiver, or is being used for a simplex autopatch.

The FRC needs your help in locating the repeater pairs that are being used for anything but legitimate full-duplex repeaters, so that they may be re-coordinated to amateurs who will use them properly.

The frequency of repeater status reports has changed. In odd-numbered years, reports are due from even-numbered districts and in even-numbered years, reports are

due from odd-numbered districts.

I have prepared a LIST of repeaters that WILL NOT BE INCLUDED in the next report to the ARRL for their 2002-2003 ARRL Repeater Directory (due out Spring 2002). Either they are uncoordinated or the required bi-annual update HAS NOT BEEN received from the coordinated trustee. If any of these repeaters are familiar to you, then please urge the trustee to submit the required update by November 15, 2001. Check your mailing label for the repeater that is most overdue for a status report. For the most up-to-date list, visit the FRC web site at the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/rptromit01.pdf>

The Council web site contains a wealth of information, including the latest repeater listings, Council By-Laws, coordination policy, minutes of the Board of Directors meetings, and links to other coordinating agencies and pages of interests to the amateur radio operators. For the most up-to-date repeater listings visit the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/dblist.htm>

Repeater status reports and applications for new or changed coordinations can be submitted on-line by visiting the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/frcappl.htm>

FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

Office of the Secretary/Treasurer

Dana G. Rodakis

6280 Fairfield Ave. So.

St. Petersburg, FL 33707-2323

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED