



# FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

## NEWSLETTER

Volume X Issue 1

<http://florida-repeaters.org>

July 2002

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Ray Kassis, N4LEM*

(None submitted)



*Communications is  
the life blood of the  
Florida Repeater  
Council*

### TREASURERS REPORT

*Dana Rodakis, K4LK*

Balance 2/9/02:	\$7699.32
Income:	\$1608.00
Expenditures:	\$511.33
Balance 7/29/02:	\$8795.99

### Minutes of Orlando Corporate Meeting

**Florida Repeater Council, Inc.  
Minutes of Annual Business Meeting  
February 9, 2002  
Orlando, Florida**

The open forum was started at 1:35 PM on February 9, 2002 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: Dave Arbrust, AE4MR  
District 7: Ted Wirick, W4YJC  
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 Hilton Rialto Place, Melbourne on September 14, 2002 at 3:00 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.

## 2002 FRC Directory

### PRESIDENT

Ray Kassis, N4LEM  
1150 W King Street  
Cocoa, FL 32922  
E-Mail: [rkassis@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rkassis@cfl.rr.com)  
(H) 321-783-0070 (H) FAX: 321-784-0070  
(W) 321-632-1000 (W) FAX: 321-636-0000

### VICE PRESIDENT

Ira R. Bickham Jr., K8HRR  
260 Tiki Drive  
Merritt Island FL, 32953  
E-Mail: [k8hrr@arrl.net](mailto:k8hrr@arrl.net)  
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) 727-347-6275  
E-Mail: [coordinator@florida-repeaters.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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  
E-Mail: [director2@florida-repeaters.org](mailto:director2@florida-repeaters.org)  
(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) 321-727-2311 or 321-722-4444  
E-Mail: [director3@florida-repeaters.org](mailto:director3@florida-repeaters.org)  
(Brevard, Indian River, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties)

### DISTRICT #4 DIRECTOR

Paul Knupke Jr., N4PK  
11931 92nd Way North  
Largo, FL 33773  
727-397-8368  
E-Mail: [director4@florida-repeaters.org](mailto:director4@florida-repeaters.org)  
(DeSota, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee,

Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk Counties)

### DISTRICT #5 DIRECTOR

Ralph Betts, KC4SGG  
1701 Lee Road #G31  
Winter Park, FL 32789  
407-622-5840  
E-Mail: [director5@florida-repeaters.org](mailto: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](mailto:director6@florida-repeaters.org)  
(Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, and Sarasota Counties)

### DISTRICT #7 DIRECTOR

Edward C. "Ted" Wirick Jr., W4YJC  
679 James Court  
Macclenny, Florida 32063-3606  
(H) 904-259-7889  
(W) 904-542-5413  
E-Mail: [director7@florida-repeaters.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

**2002 DATABASE CHANGES**  
 (1/01/02 through 07/28/02)  
 (Listed in reverse chronological order)

**NEW COORDINATIONS & TRANSFERS**

- 145.150 Tampa
- 146.625 Spring Hill
- 145.110 Coral Springs
- 443.850 Coral Springs
- 146.865 Coral Gables
- 444.125 North Port
- 146.715 Naples
- 53.010 Marianna
- 442.125 Vero Beach
- 146.955 Daytona Beach
- 442.400 Ormond Beach
- 421.250 Osprey
- 147.210 Samsula
- 442.950 Palm Beach Gardens
- 444.725 Vero Beach
- 146.865 Bartow
- 442.050 Cantonment
- 444.875 Cantonment
- 443.675 Lutz
- 443.900 Fort Pierce
- 922.000 Ft. Lauderdale
- 444.250 Lutz
- 444.200 Vero Beach
- 442.325 Palm Coast
- 444.400 Cocoa
- 147.045 Deland
- 145.290 Orlando
- 147.030 Naples
- 443.700 Naples
- 442.000 Tallahassee
- 145.170 Ocala
- 224.460 Pompano Beach
- 442.200 Ft. Lauderdale
- 146.610 Pompano Beach
- 442.225 Palm Bay
- 444.300 Largo
- 442.225 Palm Bay

**FREQUENCY CHANGES**

- 145.210 Lake Placid (from 145.250)

**DE-COORDINATIONS (new coordination not issued)**

- 29.620 Port Charlotte
- 224.860 Mims
- 146.700 Bithlo
- 444.350 Bithlo
- 443.250 Ocala
- 444.650 Crestview
- 442.050 Seven Springs
- 442.250 New Port Richey
- 444.250 Clearwater
- 444.775 Melbourne

- 444.650 Ellisville
- 147.120 Punta Gorda
- 224.360 Naples
- 224.160 Sarasota
- 146.670 Naples
- 224.020 Ocala
- 421.250 Ocala
- 442.325 Ocala
- 1291.20 Ocala
- 147.075 Tampa
- 146.685 South Daytona
- 146.955 St. Cloud
- 147.120 Jacksonville
- 224.500 Jacksonville
- 442.000 Jacksonville

**APPROVED RELOCATIONS**

- 921.200 Trenton

# 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. Payment of dues is not required to receive the services of the council.**

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.

An amateur asked if there is a way to have unused repeater pairs re-allocated. Coordinator Rodakis explained the procedure. Considerable discussion followed.

The trustee of the Orlando 442.950 MHz repeater complained about coverage overlap caused by the Verna repeater. Considerable discussion followed. Trustee of Verna repeater will investigate feasibility of changing frequency to 442.550 MHz.

The trustee of the Orlando 146.640 MHz repeater complained about coverage overlap caused by the Holiday N9EE repeater. Considerable discussion followed. Ron has lowered his output power to 5 watts with no relief. CTCSS was mentioned as a possible solution.

A discussion concerning a state-wide clear repeater pair for emergency use. Considerable discussion about 146.94 followed. Director Armbrust offered to contact existing repeater owners about going silent during an emergency. It was decided to explore a pair in the sub 442 MHz band for state-wide use.

The business meeting was called to order at 2:25 PM on February 9, 2002 by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM, who welcomed all in attendance and thanked those who work for the Council. The Secretary 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: Dave Armbrust, AE4MR
- District 7: Ted Wirick, W4YJC
- 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

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Kassis mentioned that all Directors for districts 1,

3, 5, and 7 are due for re-election along with the Council President and that the district 5 Director has resigned.

The meeting was then turned over to Vice President Ira Bickham Jr. who entertained nominations for District Directors. Nilo Hernandez was nominated as District 1 Director. Karen Power was nominated as District 3 Director. A call was made for a volunteer to serve as District 5 Director. There were no takers. Ted Wirick was nominated as District 7 Director. Ray Kassis was nominated for President by Dave Armbrust. All nominations were seconded and passed. President Kassis re-appointed Vice President Bickham 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.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Secretary Rodakis announced that the minutes of the last meeting have been posted on the FRC web site. Director Arbrust made a motion which was seconded by Director Hernandez to approve the minutes of the September 2001 meeting as posted. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The FRC Secretary/Treasurer reported the following accounting:

Opening balance, 9/8/01	\$7,883.05
Expenses:	\$973.73
Income:	\$790.00
Balance: 2/6/02:	7,699.32

#### **WEBMASTER'S REPORT:**

Web site was updated with repeater listings. The Council web site receives 20 hits per day.

#### **DATABASE MANAGER/COORDINATOR'S REPORT:**

Filemaker Pro database rework in progress. Data is due to the ARRL for the next repeater directory by February 15, 2002. Sixty-two coordinations were issued last year along with various transfers. There are 1,120 repeaters in database.

#### **REPORTS OF DIRECTORS:**

District 1: All quiet

District 2: All quiet. A couple repeaters are down due to technical problems.

District 3: Karen requested that Fred Anderson's coordination be deleted. A couple repeaters were asking to raise their 440 MHz repeater output power. The coordinator mentioned that some repeater coordination applications

*(Continued on page 5)*

indicated far in excess of the 50 watt maximum per FCC rules. Exceptions can be granted by the military frequency coordinator. Considerable discussion followed. The Okeechobee repeater on 145.21 has been inactive for 4 years. Discussion about paper repeaters followed. Can new PCARS 444.425 repeater be updated and included in the next directory.

District 4: Not sure what can be done about the 146.64 Holiday/Orlando overlap problem. Considerable discussion followed with no resolution. The Wally Cashman, 449.600 MHz W4EFK repeater is still operating upside-down. Nothing has been sent to Riley Hollingsworth.

District 5: No report

District 6: Dave reported on feasibility of moving the Verna repeater.

District 7: It is getting more difficult to locate available pairs. Other than that, all quiet.

District 8: We need to have an entry on the FRC Application that requires transmitter power for 440 MHz coordinations.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The \$200 allocated for printing and postage in opposition of tower building ordinances.

Coordinator was directed to notify Riley Hollingsworth of the Council's position on the Wall Cashman situation. This was not completed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The article about the benefits of CTCSS use was distributed last meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the article as published for the FRC web site.

A motion was made and seconded to require that transmitter power be required on the FRC Application and that applications for 440 MHz that specify more than 50 watts require a copy of a waiver from the Military Frequency Coordinator.

Director Paul reported that 10 copies of Filemaker Pro would need to be ordered simultaneously to obtain a minimal discount. Mark, Dave, Nilo, Ted, Karen and Frank would need a copy. Dana and Paul already have one. A motion was made and seconded to allocate \$1,800 for purchase of Filemaker Pro.

Director Filla prepared a proposal for new coordination distances based upon antenna height for 144, 220 and 440 MHz. The proposed distances do not include the effects of ducting or output power. A motion was made and seconded to publish the proposal on the FRC web site and the next newsletter. It will be voted upon during the September 2002 Board of Director's meeting and appropriate modifications to the coordination policy will be decided.

A motion was made and seconded to direct the Coordinator to allocate a pair in the sub-442 pair for state-wide emergency use and determine the least-used 2-meter repeater pair for emergency use.

Director Paul indicate the need to form a procedure to deal with paper repeaters. He also expressed a need to find an alternative meeting location. We met in the corner of one of the exhibition halls.

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 Coordination 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.

**A LIST of repeaters that WILL NOT BE INCLUDED in the next report to the ARRL for their 2003-2004 ARRL Repeater Directory (due out Spring 2003) will be published in October 2002. The list can be accessed by visiting the FRC web site at the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/rptromit02.pdf>. Either these repeaters 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 January 15, 2003. Check your mailing label for the repeater that is most overdue for a status report.**

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**

**Florida Repeater Council**  
**Proposed Minimum Distances for New Coordinations**

The Florida Repeater Council's Board of Directors is proposing a change in part 8 of the Voice Repeater Coordination Policy. This section currently states "8. The FRC currently maintains the following coordination zones: 85 miles co-channel (all bands), and 30 miles adjacent-channel on 2-meters in the segment where adjacent- channel frequency separation is 15 KHz. No adjacent channel separation is required in the 6-meter band, the 2-meter-band segment where frequency separation is 20 KHz, and the 222, 440, 902, and 1240 MHz bands".

The table below shows the proposed minimum distances for new coordinations. This proposal will be voted upon at the next Board of Director's meeting at the Melbourne Hamfest on September 14, 2002.

<b>VHF 144 MHz</b>			
<b>Height of TX AAT</b>	<b>Distance to Horizon</b>	<b>Estimated Usable Distance</b>	<b>New Coordination Distance</b>
50' to 200' (1)	23 Miles @ 200'	32 Miles	<b>65 Miles</b>
201' to 300'	28 Miles	36 Miles	<b>70 Miles</b>
301' to 500'	35 Miles	41 Miles	<b>80 Miles</b>
501' to 700'	40 Miles	46 Miles	<b>90 Miles</b>
701' to 1000'	48 Miles	50 Miles	<b>100 Miles</b>
1001' to 1500'	60 Miles	77 Miles	<b>140 Miles</b>
1501' to 2000'	70 Miles	84 Miles	<b>160 Miles</b>
<b>VHF 220 MHz &amp; UHF 440 MHz</b>			
<b>Height of TX AAT</b>	<b>Distance to Horizon</b>	<b>Estimated Usable Distance</b>	<b>New Coordination Distance</b>
50' to 200' (1)	23 Miles @ 200'	25 Miles	<b>50 Miles</b>
201' to 300'	28 Miles	29 Miles	<b>60 Miles</b>
301' to 500'	35 Miles	38 Miles	<b>70 Miles</b>
501' to 700'	40 Miles	42 Miles	<b>80 Miles</b>
701' to 1000'	48 Miles	45 Miles	<b>90 Miles</b>
1001' to 1500'	60 Miles	52 Miles	<b>110 Miles</b>
1501' to 2000'	70 Miles	56 Miles	<b>125 Miles</b>

**NOTES :**

These calculations are based on Talk-Out capabilities of the repeater to a mobile user under the following conditions. (2)

Repeater transmitter power output:	100 watts
Repeater duplexer and feedline loss:	3.5 dB
Repeater antenna gain:	6 dB
Repeater receiver antenna height:	10 feet
Repeater receiver sensitivity for 20 dB quieting:	0.35 uV
Repeater receiver feedline loss:	1.0 dB
Repeater receiver antenna gain:	3.0 dB

1. Coordinations below 50' AAT are no longer coordinated by the Florida Repeater Council but the ability to put into operation a repeater below 50' must be approved by the Coordinator to protect any incumbent already existing on the frequency.
2. The Florida Repeater Council cannot protect users who wish to operate and communicate with repeaters with above average facilities (ex. towers above 25') who hear co-channel repeaters coordinated by the Council.
3. These calculations are based on normal atmospheric conditions. Ducting and other natural conditions cannot be controlled nor can be utilized as a basis for coordination distances.

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Proposed by FRC District 2 Director Mark Filla KS4VT.