



# FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

## NEWSLETTER

Volume VIII Issue 2

<http://florida-repeaters.org>

December 2000

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Ray Kassis, N4LEM*

I am writing this message on Thanksgiving and I want to publicly thank the director's and staff of the FRC. We all owe a great thank you to Dana Rodakis, K4LK for his handling of the FRC's day to day operations as well as coordinator, data base manager and cooperation as secretary/treasurer.

One of the main problems many of us face as amateur repeater operator's is the loss of tower space. In Brevard County amateur radio repeater had to vacate the main tower and six repeaters were silenced in one day. This was quite a blow to amateur communications, however slowly new tower sites were found and most of the repeater's are now back on the air. I suggest you do all you can to make your relationship with tower owners stonger so that when a change of ownership or tower loads are analyzed, the amateur repeater is secure.

Thank you for your continued support and input to the FRC. Remember, keep the data base as current as possible.

73  
Ray Kassis  
N4LEM

### TREASURERS REPORT

*Dana Rodakis, K4LK*

Balance 10/1/00:	\$7793.90
Income:	\$110.00
Expenditures:	\$244.83
Balance 12/13/00:	\$7659.07

### Minutes of Melbourne Corporate Meeting

Florida Repeater Council, Inc.  
Minutes of Open Forum and Board of Directors Meeting  
September 9, 2000  
Melbourne, Florida

The open forum was started at 3:00 PM on September 9, 2000 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: Terry Brinson, W9TG  
District 6:  
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: none  
Database Manager: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK

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### FEBRUARY FRC MEETING

The next meeting of the FRC Board of Directors and Staff will be held at the Orlando Hamfest on February 10, 2001 at 1:30 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.



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

## 2000 FRC Directory

### PRESIDENT

Ray Kassis, N4LEM  
1150 W King Street  
Cocoa, FL 32922  
E-Mail: **none**  
(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  
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Merritt Island FL, 32953  
321-453-2309

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

Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK  
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(H) 727-381-3344  
(FAX) 727-381-3344  
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  
(FAX) 561-852-9432  
(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) 321-777-9195  
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

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

### DISTRICT #6 DIRECTOR

Matthew Bush, KA9RIX  
237 East Madeira Avenue  
Madeira Beach, FL 33708  
727-394-9665  
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  
105 James Court Rt. 2 Box 402  
Macclenny, Florida 32063-9564  
(H) 904-259-7889  
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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  
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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)

## FRC NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Dana G. Rodakis  
FRC Secretary/Treasurer  
6280 Fairfield Ave. So.  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33707-2323  
727-381-3344  
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*Your Staff and  
Directors are  
willing to help  
you. Please  
avail yourself of  
their services.*

**2000 DATABASE CHANGES**  
(Listed in reverse chronological order)

**New Coordinations or Transfers**

- 444.550 Poinciana
- 145.430 Verna
- 442.950 Verna
- 145.270 Miami
- 442.125 Miami
- 444.600 Miami
- 444.725 Ft. Lauderdale
- 443.475 Sarasota
- 444.500 Fort Lauderdale
- 147.210 Reddington Shores
- 145.250 Lake Placid
- 146.790 South Pasadena
- 444.025 Marathon
- 444.125 Miami
- 444.025 Sunrise
- 444.125 West Palm Beach
- 145.370 Brooksville
- 444.850 Punta Gorda
- 53.310 Okeechobee
- 53.190 Orlando
- 444.500 Panama City
- 443.825 Jupiter
- 53.190 Orange Park
- 444.850 Daytona Beach
- 146.730 Port St. Lucie
- 444.575 Palatka
- 444.075 Port St. Lucie
- 147.180 Arcadia
- 444.200 Arcadia
- 444.750 Tampa
- 442.350 Dunedin
- 442.325 Wauchula
- 1291.000 St. Petersburg
- 224.420 Orlando
- 442.050 Wellington
- 145.190 Zephyrhills
- 146.865 Bartow
- 444.600 Winter Park
- 146.850 Lake Panasoffee
- 145.210 Clermont
- 29.620 Fort Walton Beach
- 147.285 Wellington
- 147.330 Silver Springs
- 145.290 Dunnellon
- 147.345 Midway
- 146.655 Dunnellon
- 444.375 Clearwater
- 444.875 Cantonment
- 146.985 Port St. Lucie
- 442.575 Orlando
- 444.300 Jupiter
- 442.525 Goulds

**De-Coordinations by Trustee Request (New coordination not issued)**

- 442.025 Valkaria

- 53.010 West Palm Beach
- 224.600 Stuart
- 29.660 Orlando
- 145.210 Lake Buena Vista
- 442.750 Lake Buena Vista
- 146.730 Key West
- 442.125 Vero Beach

**Frequency Changes**

- 444.825 Jacksonville
- 145.410 Pace
- 442.750 Altamonte Springs
- 442.875 Paisley
- 145.430 Monticello

NOTE: Trustee and sponsor changes are not listed here. For a detailed list of database changes visit the following:

<http://florida-repeaters.org/dbchange.htm>

# FRC Dues

Clip this coupon and mail in **ONLY** 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)*

Pres. 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 when completed.

He asked for a volunteer to fill the vacant secretary/treasurer position. There were no takers.

He discussed letters he had received concerning the interference complaint between N9EE (New Port Richie) and W8PCZ (Ruskin) repeaters caused by linking by N9EE on a VHF frequency, specifically the input frequency to the W8PCZ repeater. The letter from N9EE admitted that he was linked on that frequency, a clear violation of FCC Regs part 97.101(d).

A discussion followed on this issue, we agreed collectively to have Pres. write a letter to N9EE stating our objection to his practice and to reinforce the concept that he is in violation of FCC Regs. This will be formalized in the latter portion of the meeting.

Dist 1 informed us that there are two other similar interference problems that he is aware of in his district. They are being addressed locally.

The Pres. of the University of Central Florida repeater group informed us that the same N9EE repeater is interfering with their 146.640 MHz repeater on campus to the extent that it is unusable a good portion of the time. This is a long-standing problem for them, they have a handful of correspondences with N9EE, all to no avail. They were asking us what could be done to resolve this problem. There is some question as to whether FRC gave N9EE permission to go to the 1100 feet antenna height he is presently at. The question was tabled pending the arrival of Database manager.

A recommendation from the floor was made to change the coordination policy distance between repeaters to be based on other factors besides distance. A three stage proposal was introduced that would be defined for antennas from 1-500 ft, 500-1000 ft, 1000 ft and up. It was also stated that ERP should be entered into the equation. These issues will also be addressed at the formal portion of the meeting.

Dist 4 discussed the 1.2 GHz offset issue that had been brought up at the previous meeting. he recommended that we take no new action at this time due to the small number of repeaters in this band and the numerous numbers of channels available.

Open meeting closed at 1555 and formal portion of the meeting was opened.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM on September 9, 2000 by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM, who determined that a quorum of qualified Directors were in attendance.

Pres. called for a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting as recorded. These minutes were unavailable due to lack of a secretary, but have been published on the web and in the newsletter for all to read. The motion was made by Dist 8 and seconded by Dist 3. Passed!

Pres. called for a motion to appoint Dana K4LK as secretary/treasurer in addition to his other duties. Motion was made by Dist 7 and seconded by Dist 8. Passed!

#### REPORTS OF DIRECTORS:

##### District 1:

One interference problem in the district, parties are working on it. No other issues to report.

##### District 2:

Director Mark has been appointed as Palm Beach County RACES Director. 147.285 recoordinates to new group and on the air. 146.940 West Palm Beach repeater trustee no longer a licensed amateur and per the FRC regs should be decoordinates. After discussion it was agreed to send him a letter and give him 15 days to get the repeater under the trusteeship of a licensed amateur or we will decoordinate the repeater.

Dist 4 made a motion to accomplish the above stated letter and it was seconded by Dist 2. Passed!

147.12 Belle Glade repeater lost its site, moving to a county site. 444.500 repeater is in a 60 day testing period in Brevard County.

##### District 3:

Discussed a conditional coordination request between two entities that are within the 85 mile limit. Requested Database manager to permit the two trustees to work out the details of coexisting and that was agreed to. Involved directors will also get involved.

##### Dist 4 report:

Need to see what antenna height N9EE is coordinated for, may have been given permission prior to our administration, Database Manager will see what earlier copies of the database shows. This is in reference to the earlier stated

*(Continued on page 5)*

interference problem from his linking on input to W8PCZ's repeater. W8PCZ sent a letter to Dist 4 concerning this interference problem and W8PCZ expressed his concerns that FRC wasn't being responsive to this problem. Pres. will draft a letter to N9EE as stated earlier and express the FRC's position .

Meeting adjourned at 1658.

Respectfully submitted  
Ted Wirick, W7YJC  
Acting Secretary

Motion was made by Dist 1 to draft the letter and seconded by Dist 2. Passed!

District 5:

No problems to report.

District 6:

Database Manager acting for dist 6 had no problems to report.

District 7:

No problems to report. Raised the question of explaining to the group the FRC policy on District PL tones as there was a complaint received to the plan.

District 8:

Had one interference problem which was resolved.

#### DATABASE MANAGERS REPORT:

Did not utilize funds allocated for new database software. There are 1095 repeaters coordinated in Florida database. There are 25 new coordinations since the Orlando Meeting. Distributed a paper on the 1.2 GHz repeater offset situation which also basically stated that no action is necessary at this time. List is on the web site of those repeaters which have not updated since 01/01/98. These repeaters need to submit updated reports ASAP.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

Dist 8 reported that he went to the Alabama Repeater Council meeting and passed along a report from them that American Tower Company is buying up every tower they can. They are then removing every ham installation from them, sometimes without any warning. This problem will also befall some of our Florida repeater installations.

Pres. suggested that we hold the UHF repeater pair that was reserved for the Esteves as an emergency pair for any other emergency situation that might come up. It was agreed.

There was a discussion on how to list the repeaters in the ARRL directory, either alphabetically or by geographical region. There was no consensus.

Motion to adjourn by Dist 8 and seconded by Dist 2. Passed!

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**FRC REMAILER**

Thanks to the efforts of Steve Siesel, K4KSA of Largo, an FRC remailer is now available. To subscribe, send a message to Majordomo@k4ksa.org with the following in the BODY of the message: "subscribe frc" (no quotes). If you ever need to get in contact with the owner of the list, (if you have trouble subscribing, or have questions about the list itself) send a message to owner-frc@k4ksa.org.

**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 sus-

pect 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.

The annual list of repeaters has been submitted to the A.R.R.L. for inclusion in their next repeater directory due out Spring 2001. However, a number of repeaters were omitted from this list either because they are uncoordinated, or the required status report has not been received from the coordinated trustee. For a list of the omitted repeaters, visit the following page on the world wide web:

<http://florida-repeaters.org/rptromit00.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**