MEETING SCHEDULE: GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY JULY 11, 7:00 PM.
The General Meeting will be held at the First United Methodist Church, on Marion Ave., Punta Gorda. Location and directions to the meeting site on page two (2).

HAVE YOU CHECKED THE CARS 'groups.io' LATELY?
Did you even know there was a CARS "groups.io" page? The official listed page address is https://groups.io/g/CARS-FL but just search or put "CARS-FL.groups.io" in the address box and you'll find our page. It's for us and our friends so request membership and it will happen ASAP. Use it to get CARS information or any ham radio related activity. Looking to buy or sell a few items, let everyone know (not meant for ongoing commercial activity). CARS is on the move!

When an opportunity presents itself to pass the information on, please do so.

CQ CQ CQ, QS QST QST Calling all CARS Members
CARS looking for new additional SUNSHINE NET alternate control operators. One way to become a regular net control operator is by assisting as an alternate. As an alternate you will be the operator in the temporary unavailability of one of the regular operators.

Information and assistance regarding net protocol will be provided in addition to a script of the recommended procedures – however the actual net will be your decision.

Please contact Dave Weinstein, K3FHP, 3205-951-1843 or weinstein@aol.com

CARS FIELD DAY AFLOAT 2019

WX4E MOBILE
Information and photos on pages three (3) and four (4)
Thank you everyone who participated in this year's “CARS Field Day 2019 Edition”. It has been too long since WX4E has been on the air without being on a repeater.

We chose to enter in the “C” category, which is the “mobile” category. It had it's own restrictions and limitations on operation (mobile type antennas, etc,) and bonus points (I failed to see we were ineligible for the solar bonus).

Here is the official rule section for the 'C' category:

“4.5. (Class C) Mobile: Stations in vehicles capable of operating while in motion and normally operated in this manner. This includes maritime and aeronautical mobile. If the Class C station is being powered from a car battery or alternator, it qualifies for emergency power but does not qualify for the multiplier of 5, as the alternator/battery system constitutes a motor-driven generating system.”

Everyone involved was enthusiastic about our effort and event activity. We learned a lot. we believe this was the first time FD was operated afloat in Charlotte County) and had a good times on the “Perfect Lady”. Thanks to Roger, W3IGM, for the use of his vessel and facilities, without which this FD afloat would not have been possible.

Below is the ARRL Field Day “Soapbox” entry submitted by Dave, K3FHP, to the ARRL FD website:

“The Charlotte Amateur Radio Society, Punta Gorda FL wanted to do something different. That’s hard as most have about half a century or more as hams, so we asked Roger Weatherly, W3IGM, to graciously let us use his 45 foot cruiser, “PERFECT LADY” as the venue. Considering the space available, we set up as a three transmitter '3C' entry (why can't “'C” class get the solar power bonus?), something none of us had done before. Setting up, loading stores (Deli Platters and drinks), It was a great and interesting time which could only have been better if there were some radio propagation. Using mobile type antennas with low power with the worst propagation I can remember digi sigs bleeding and wobbling across the waterfall (doppler?) and echoing CW like everything was from across the North pole.

Anyway, great time, great friends and ready to do it or something even more interesting next Field Day.

73 es DX de K3FHP”

That pretty much sums it up We learned much about this type operation, have new ideas on antennas, how to operate contests and are ready to try again next contest.

The propagation and conditions were perhaps the worst (did I say this already...well here it is again) I have experienced in an event of this type of event. It was not just us, PRRA was having similar issues and an email to K7RA, the ARRL propagation Guru and author of their propagation reports and articles, confirmed that very poor conditions and strange doppler conditions were “wide spread”.

Maybe that just makes the event more interesting and a challenge, after all, anybody can do this with a solar flux of 200 and no QRN or QSB.

On the following pages are photos of the event.. I hope to see you at the next CARS operating event.

Dave Weinstein, K3FHP
CARS President
Hello Heathkit – Goodbye Heathkit

The company, reborn as Heathkit Educational Systems, announced in 2011 that they were reentering the kit business after a 20 year hiatus. Unfortunately the company filed for bankruptcy and ceased all operations in 2012.

Heathkit made amateur radio kits almost from the beginning. They entered the market in 1954 with the AT-1, a simple, three tube, crystal controlled transmitter. It was capable of operating CW on the six most popular amateur short wave bands, and sold for $29.50. The 39-page catalog contained only two pages of “ham gear”. An antenna coupler was the only other piece of equipment specifically intended for amateur radio use. The other two items were a general coverage short wave receiver, the AR-2, and an impedance meter. A VFO for the AT-1, the model VF-1, came out the following year.

In addition to their low prices compared with commercially manufactured equipment, Heathkits appealed to amateurs who had an interest in building their own equipment, but did not necessarily have the expertise or desire to design it and obtain all the parts themselves. They expanded and enhanced their line of amateur radio gear through nearly four decades. By the late 1960s, Heathkit had at least as large a selection of ham equipment as any company in the field.

The company’s first full featured transmitter, the DX-100, appeared in 1956. It filled two facing catalog pages, indicating Heathkit’s seriousness in building kits for amateurs. The description noted that it was “amateur designed” – meant to convey expertise in designing specifically for the amateur radio operator - not the usual sense of the term amateur. And it stated that “amateurs in the field are enthusiastic about praising its performance under actual operating conditions,” indicating that it had been through what we would call beta testing today.

The Heathkit tribes: Apache, Mohawk, Chippewa, Seneca, Cheyenne, Comanche, Marauder, Warrior

In 1959, a year before the last DX-100 was sold, a new deluxe line of amateur equipment was introduced. The TX-1 Apache transmitter and the RX-1 Mohawk receiver were about the same size and weight as the DX-100 but had updated styling and a new cabinet (to which the DX-100 also changed). The transmitter had many more features than its predecessor, and the RX-1 was Heathkit’s first full featured amateur band receiver.

Both units used a slide rule dial with a scale that changed from one band to another on a rotating drum, and provided more accurate tuning. Together, Heath’s top of the line pair sold for $504.45 (nearly $4000 in 2009).

The SB-10 SSB adapter was introduced in 1959 to enable both the Apache and DX-100 to operate on the new mode. The next year, a matching kilowatt linear amplifier, the KL-1 Chippewa, was added to the line. Completing the line, the model VHF-1 Seneca covered the 6 meter (50 MHz) and 2 meter (144 MHz) bands.

The MT-1 Cheyenne transmitter and MR-1 Comanche receiver were considerably smaller and lighter than the Apache-Mohawk pair. Used with either an AC or DC external power supply, they could be operated in fixed or mobile service. Without transceive capability, this pair was probably challenging to operate while driving. A year later these units were reborn as the HX-20 transmitter and HR-20 receiver (and were no longer given names), capable of SSB operation.

The HX-10 Marauder was a redesigned replacement for the Apache, operating on SSB without an external adapter. It appeared in the 1962-63 catalog along with a new linear amplifier, the HA-10 Warrior. The last new entry in the tribes generation was the HX-30 transmitter and HA-20 linear amplifier, both capable of SSB operation.