



News from

The GLORIOUS SOCIETY OF THE WORMHOLE

March 2026

Hello Worms

THE MEETING WILL NOW START AT 1000

Another organizations meeting is starting at 1230 meaning they arrive at 1200. Unfortunately that means our meeting after meeting that sometimes runs for hours will no longer be available. We could always go somewhere and get a cup of coffee.

Bring your drink of choice and lunch to the meeting if you want. We will not be cooking but we have access to the Chamber of Commerce kitchen which has a microwave and a toaster oven so you can heat up/cook what you bring.

DID YOU KNOW

Canadians say “sorry” so much that a law was passed in 2009 declaring that an apology can’t be used as evidence of admission to guilt.

***THIS MONTH’S STIFF – JAMES CLERK MAXWELL ***

This Month's Stiff: James Clerk Maxwell

Entered mortal coil: 13 June 1831

Assumed Room Temperature: 5 November 1879

James Clerk Maxwell, father of all that we hams hold sacred. Jimmy's mathematical formulas, which had as a foundation earlier research by Faraday on electricity and magnetism, predicted the existence of electromagnetic waves, i.e. radio.

These formulas are quite complex, and even I, with a full year of college calculus under my belt courtesy of a questionable institution of higher learning (after all, they DID admit me, didn't they?), have difficulty digesting them. Here are the formulas below for your enjoyment

1. $\text{div } \mathbf{E} = 0$

2. $\text{div } \mathbf{H} = 0$

3. $\text{curl } \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{c} \times \text{dH/dt}$

4. $\text{curl } \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{c} \times \text{dE/dt}$

Where \mathbf{E} = electric field strength, \mathbf{H} = magnetic field strength, curl = rotation (or rate of change and vorticity), div = divergence, dH/dt and dE/dt are partial differentiations with respect to time. \times = multiplication

Okay, you may ask, what does all this gobbledegook mean? Simply put, a changing electric current in a conductor will set up an expanding electromagnetic field propagating outward at the speed of light (this is the foundation on how transmitters work). Conversely, an electromagnetic field intersecting a conductor will induce a varying electric current (this is the foundation on how receivers work).

A few years after Jimmy's death, all of this mess was proven to be true when a particularly bright German researcher, Heinrich Hertz, demonstrated the existence of radio waves via experimental means. Our hero was vindicated!

Maxwell was not a particularly good teacher at St. Andrews University in Great Britain. Maxwell did other important work on the orbital dynamics of Saturn's rings and developed the kinetic theory of gases. Maxwell's theories on electromagnetic radiation, however, were later considered to be the greatest contribution to science in the 19th century. Jimmy died quietly in bed, at peace with himself and his Maker.

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PHISON CEO THINKS NAND SHORTAGE WILL CLOSE SMALL BUSINESSES

'tom's HARDWARE NEWS by Bruno Ferreh

Phison is a key player in the storage world. The company holds roughly 20% of the SSD controller market, 40% of the automotive storage market, and a slice of server SSDs, among other ventures. The unprecedented flash memory shortage is tough enough on Phison, but CEO Khein-Seng Pua (KS Pua) says that it could lead many smaller companies to a quick death this year in [an interview with Ning Guan](#) from Era News.

In the talk, he describes a meeting in China where he witnessed mobile and automotive companies (presumably major ones) pleading suppliers for flash memory. He concludes that smaller firms may not be able to secure *any* flash supply at all, stating that "consumer electronics are finished," and that the market "will see a lot of victims" in the second half of 2026.

Later in the interview he says that he "[tells his clients] that if the first quarter of this year is painful, really painful, then by year-end, they'll definitely jump off a building."

Even in larger markets, Pua expects that smartphones will go undergo a production cut in the range of 100 to 250 million, and that PC and TV shipments are also bound to drop due to supply constraints.

Overall, that's quite the ugly picture, but there seems to be data to support it. Pua says that one of the three major NAND foundries is actually demanding three years' worth of cash prepayments upfront, a notion heretofore unheard of in the industry yet not unbelievable in this time of dire straits. Host Ning Guan even remarks that not even TSMC asked Nvidia, of all companies, for that much of a down payment.

Should even half of the predicted scenario ring true, the consequent flash apocalypse may be as bad or worse than the DRAM crisis. Pua says that 8GB eMMC modules, used across many consumer and automotive segments, rose from \$1.50 to \$20 last year alone, a 13x increase. Even at those inflated prices, they're still hard to come by, even for the likes of Phison. Pua concedes he and many others are now "memory beggars" and cites that his customers' fulfillment rate is under 30%, revealing an already exhausted market.

If that wasn't enough bad news already, Pua thinks the situation will get worse still, as the demand of the AI market shifts from training (creating the models) to inference, when the models actually run to generate content. The explosion in AI usage requires storage for said content, leaving no flash chips for hardware outside of datacenters.

That news unfortunately dovetails with [Western Digital](#) saying it's [out of hard drives for the year](#), and already short for 2027 and 2028. At this rate, we'll be back to computing on abacuses in no time flat unless there's some kind of market correction.

*** FCC POSTING FOR FIELD AGENTS -ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS***

ARRL NEWS 02/20/2026

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is looking for qualified applicants for Field Agents in seven Enforcement Bureau (EB) offices across the United States: Atlanta, GA; Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; New Orleans, LA; New York, NY, and Portland, OR. Incumbents will resolve Radio Frequency (RF) interference, educate users, and enforce regulations. The GS levels for this position have been expanded to GS 7, opening the opportunity for new college graduates. One year of work experience is not required for this position. Closing date is March 2, 2026.

From the FCC posting:

Performs and directs fieldwork in matters of importance to communications involving safety of life and property. Serves as a point of contact for FCC licensees including the US Government in matters of fixed and mobile radio direction-finding and interference resolution. Participates in unique enforcement and engineering projects that have regional or national applications.

Operates and understands all technical equipment typically used in the Field including RF spectrum analyzers, field strength meters, RF Field survey meters, and radio receivers. Maintains contacts with and assists other Federal agencies, foreign

counterparts, and local law enforcement organizations concerning interaction and utilization of the radio spectrum for both authorized and unauthorized activities.

Initiates Official Notices of Violation, Warnings, Notices of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture, and other orders to radio operators and licensees, to bring unsatisfactory or violative conditions to their attention as a result of monitoring, investigations and inspections. Independently initiates correspondence or other communications with complainants and radio users concerning the enforcement functions of the office and region.

Participates in regional emergency planning meetings, serves as the local expert in emergency communications restoration, participates in FEMA conducted training exercises and is able to serve on ESF-2 task force and deployments as necessary. Participates and assists in planning of Bureau enforcement and compliance workshops for persons associated with the various industries and radio services the Commission regulates.

The Salary is \$57,736 to \$158,322 per year per year depending on qualifications and experience.

See the official, complete announcement for GS-855-7/9/11/12/13 Electronics Engineer (Field Agent) on USAjobs.gov at www.usajobs.gov/job/857694500.

*** WINDOWS 11 MOBILE-STYLE SECURITY***

INFOPACKETS by [John Lister](#) on Mon, 03/02/2026

Microsoft has announced a significant security update for Windows 11, introducing new controls that mirror the permission systems on modern smartphones. The changes are designed to make the operating system "secure by default" by giving users more direct control over how applications access data and system resources.

This change aims to address long-standing issues where applications can override system settings or install unwanted software without clear user approval. The new framework is built on two core components: "Windows Baseline Security Mode" and "User Transparency and Consent."

The new Baseline Security Mode will, by default, only permit applications, services, and drivers that have been properly signed to run. This process involves verifying a digital certificate that confirms the publisher's identity and makes sure the software has not been altered. (Source: [windowslatest.com](https://www.windowslatest.com))

While this creates a stronger defense against malware, Microsoft has confirmed that both users and IT administrators will retain the ability to create exceptions for trusted applications that may be unsigned. This flexibility is crucial for developers and professionals who need to run specialized or legacy tools..

The second major change introduces a granular permission system inspired by security in mobile operating systems such as Android. Under the "User Transparency and Consent" feature, Windows will now explicitly request permission when an application attempts to access sensitive hardware like a camera or microphone, or personal data such as local files, location, and contacts.

These permission prompts are designed to be clear, providing a brief explanation of why the application is requesting access and allowing users to grant or deny it. Users will be able to review and revoke these permissions at any time via a centralized dashboard in the system settings, providing greater ongoing visibility and control over their privacy. (Source: bleepingcomputer.com)

The changes follow Microsoft's embarrassment in 2023 when the Department of Homeland Security declared the company's entire security culture was "inadequate". There's no firm timescale for the new features, with Microsoft simply labeling them as part of ongoing improvements.



CLUB MEETING and ZOOM

The meeting time is 1000 on Saturday morning at the Lurie Civic Building on the St Petersburg College campus in Seminole. Turn west at the light at 113th St N and about 92nd Ave N. It's the first building on the north side. Here is a link to a Google map: [Google Maps](#) . There are a few parking spots in front the Chamber building but double parking is fine since we will be able to find the owner to move his vehicle if necessary. Alternately if you go another 100 yards past you can park in the college parking lot. We will not be offering a ZOOM of the meeting

CLUB NETS

Check in on the club net Thursdays at 1930 and 2000 (or at the end of the 2M net). 2M at 146.850 – with a tone of 146.2. Our 6M net runs after our regular 2M net on 53.150 – 1MHz offset 146.2 tone.

LOCAL NETS

MONDAY

1830 147.060+ no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	St Petersburg
1900 144.210 USB	CARS, vertical polarization	Clearwater
1900 147.135 +146.2	Zephyrhills ARC	Zephyrhills
2000 147.165+ 136.5	Brandon ARS	from Brandon
2000 50.135	Pinellas ARK	Pinellas County

2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net,	NI4CE system
2030 145.450	Pinellas ARK	Pinellas County

TUESDAY

1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1900 50.200 USB	6M net	Brandon ARS
1900 28.365 USB	10M Net	Clearwater
1900 NI4CE system	WCF Section VHF ARES	NI4CE system
1930 145.170 & 442.4 both pl 156.7	Pinellas ACS net	Clearwater
1930 444.900 +141.3	Sheriff's Tactical ARC	Tampa
2000 NI4CE system	WCF Skywarn net	NI4CE system
2000 147.105+ 146.2	Tampa ARC net	from Tampa
2000 28.365 USB	simplex	Brandon ARS
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
2100 28.465 USB	10/10 net	from Orlando
1900 146.490 simplex	3 RD Tuesday monthly, Hillsborough Co ARES simplex Net	

WEDNESDAY

1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1900 147.165 + 136.5	Humpday Net	from Brandon
1930 52.020 simplex	Suncoast 6'ers	from St Petersburg

1930 NI4CE system	WCF Section Digital Info Ne	NI4CE system
2000 147.105 146.2	Greater Tampa CERT net	from Tampa
2000 146.97- 146.2	Clearwater ARS	from Clearwater
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
2100 NI4CE system	Tampa Bay Traders Net	non-affiliated
0000-2359 HF Winlink https://winlinkwednesday.net/reminder.html	Winlink Wednesday Net	

THURSDAY

1800 146.52 simplex	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	North Tampa
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1900 444.750 +146.2	Fusion net	from Tampa
1915 224.660- no tone	St Pete ARC	from St Petersburg
1930 146.6385 -127.3	Lakeland ARC	from Lakeland
1930 440.1 +162.2	Hillsborough ARES/RACES	from Tampa
1930 146.850- 146.2	Wormhole	from Pinellas Co
2000 53.150 -1MHz 146.2	Wormhole	from Pinellas Co
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system

FRIDAY

1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
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1900 3.830 LSB	Brandon 80M Net	from Brandon
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system

SATURDAY

0730 3.940 (7.281 Alt.)+/- QRM	WCF Section HF Net	from WCF
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system

SUNDAY

0800 3.933	Florida Traders Net	non-affiliated
1830 147.060 no tone	St Pete ARC daily net	from St Petersburg
1930 NI4CE system	WCF Section Net	NI4CE system
2000 147.550 simplex	550 Simplex Net	Pinellas County
2030 NI4CE system	EAGLE Net, NTS traffic net	NI4CE system
2100 144.210 USB	Clearwater ARS	vertical orientation



FOR SALE / WANTED

Anyone having something for sale or who might be looking for an item let me know. I will not print phone numbers or email addresses unless specifically told to since this newsletter might end up on the web. The exception is when I get the information off the web. If you are a member of the Wormhole then you can ask club members for the persons contact information. If you are not a member ... why not? OK, if you are not a member you can contact me at the email address at the end of this

newsletter, I will give you the information to contact the person involved. If you want to see anything here and you are coming to the meeting let the seller know, maybe he can bring it.

FOR SALE,

See Bill AG4QX for the following: make me an offer.

*Heathkit HD-1215 Phone patch	looks ok	\$10
*Drake WV-5 wattmeter	looks ok	\$75
*Cushcraft A4S, 10/15/20 4 element beam		\$250
*Cushcraft AV-12AVQ, 10/15/20 vertical		\$125
*Cushcraft A50-#S, 6m beam		\$125
*Cushcraft A-#WS, 17/12 WARC beam		\$250
*15000 V neon sign transformer currently used for Jacobs ladder		\$30

HAMFESTS

February 28 **TECHCON 2026 Hillsborough County Public Safety Operations Complex, located at 9450 E. Columbus Dr., Tampa, FL 33519** You may register to either attend or make a presentation for **TECHCON** at <http://arrlwcf.org/section-forms/wcftechconfregistration/>.

Fourth full weekend January

Winter Field Day <https://www.winterfieldday.com/>

Late January

Gasparilla celebration

Late February

West Central Florida Tech Conference [http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-](http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/)

[events/wcftechconference/](http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/)

March/April

MS Walks

April

MS150 bike now named Suncoast Challenge <http://www.citrustour.org/register.php>

March/April	Mass Casualty Exercises
Late April	Southeastern VHF Society Conference, http://www.svhfs.org
Late April	Florida QSO Party
Mid May	March For Babies (was March of Dimes)
	https://www.marchforbabies.org/Registration/Events
Mid May	Annual Armed Forces Crossband Test
Mid-May	Florida Hurricane Exercise
Late May	Dayton Hamfest
May, Memorial Day Weekend	Wormfest
First weekend in June	Museum Ships on the Air
Fourth weekend in June	Field Day http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/
Third weekend in August	International Lighthouse/Lightship Week https://illw.net/
September	Run for All Children's
Mid October	The Great Shakeout https://www.shakeout.org
October, 3 rd weekend	JOTA, Scout Jamboree-on-the-AIR (around 14.280MHz)
Early December	ALS bike ride in Walsingham Park
December, Second weekend	Tampa Bay Hamfest http://www.fgcarc.org/

North American QSO Party

Mode	Contest Weekend
CW	2nd full weekend January 1 st full weekend August
SSB	3 rd full weekend January 3 rd full weekend August
RTTY	last Saturday February 3rd full weekend July



YOUR WORMHOLE OFFICERS

Bill AG4QX is President and editor of this newsletter, the Vice President position is open, Treasurer is Jim KD4MZL, Paul KA4IOX is the Secretary, Dee N4GD is the Repeater Trustee and Mike KV0OOM is our webmaster.

YOUR WORMHOLE REPEATERS

53.150 -1Mz PL 146.2

442.625 +5Mz PL 146.2

146.850 - 600Kz PL 146.2

The Wormhole 2M and 440 repeaters are both now dual mode Yaesu DR-2X. FM analog as always and Yaesu Fusion, a C4FM digital mode.

The Wormhole website is at: <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org>.

West Central Florida Section website: <http://www.arrlwcf.org/>.

The ARRL website is at: <http://www.arrl.org/>

This newsletter is written for The Glorious Society of the Wormhole, an ARRL affiliated amateur radio club located around the Seminole section of Pinellas County Florida. Anyone wishing to be added or removed from The Glorious Society of the Wormhole mailings please write to me at the address below and thy will be done.

73,
Bill Williams
AG4QX
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