

MERT



Marion County Emergency Radio Team

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

September 2021

MERT's role is focused on supporting County emergency personnel, evacuation shelters and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) within Marion County, FL with independent and mobile voice, image and data communications resources.

MERT...at the North Central Florida Outdoor Expo

MERT participated in the Outdoor Expo event at the World Equestrian Center in August where we showcased HAM radio and what MERT does during emergency events supporting the Marion County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management. MERT members displayed various radio systems, our mobile SHERK kits along with Winlink Global Email capabilities.

We also welcomed Sheriff Billy Woods who visited with us at the booth.



At the Expo (L-R) was Paul Blystone WB4QQN (MERT Winlink & Net Control Admin); Dee Seagraves; Sharon Malik KM4SMM (MERT Member) and Leon Jurczynszyn K8ZAG (MERT Coordinator). Not pictured Bill Gillespie KW5BG (MERT Asst. Coordinator).

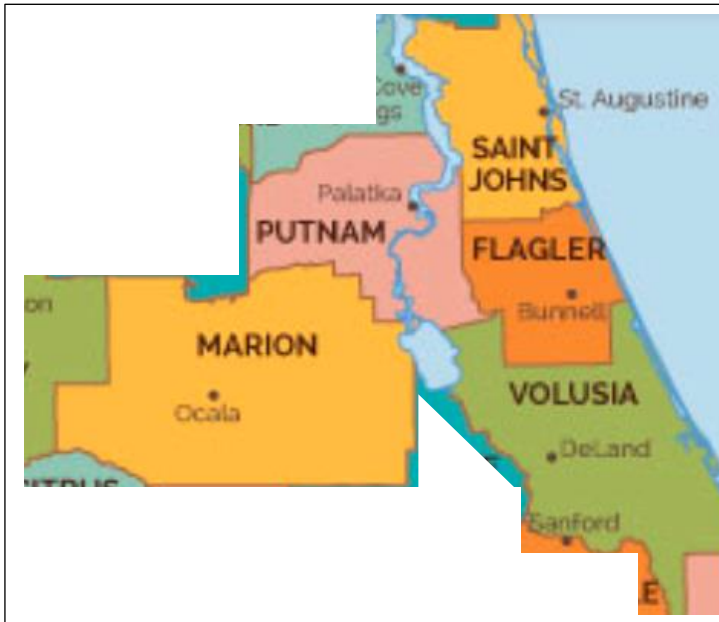


UPDATE: KK4DFC Repeater Remains Offline

KK4DFC is off-line awaiting equipment repairs at ICOM.

The Thursday night MERT D-STAR NET continues on KG4NXO (VHF - 145.10 MHz).

MERT Joins Multi-County Communications Systems Test



The Marion County Emergency Radio Communications Team (MERT) began partnering with several outlying counties to test our communications capability. The counties that are participating are, Flagler, St. Johns, Volusia and Putnam and Marion.

According to the capabilities of each county, the Test/Drill will contact each county using several modes of operation. The Test/Drill is done on the last Wednesday of the month using predetermined frequencies and repeaters.

The modes being used are Shares Voice and Data, SLERS Voice and Data, Amateur Radio High Frequency Voice and Winlink, SARNET Voice, Satellite Phones, EOC 800 MHZ Radio and GMRS Radio.

Flagler County has taken the lead on scheduling and getting the project to a start.

The first exercise was completed on July 28th and was deemed successful with expected problems that will be addressed by each county.

Marion County MERT capabilities are: High Frequency Voice and Data, Winlink Messaging, SARNET Voice, Satellite Phone System and 800MHZ Radio.

Leon Jurczynszyn K8ZAG (MERT Coordinator) and Bill Gillespie KW5BG (Assistant Coordinator) shared this new monthly test is in addition to the SARNET weekly tests which began in August.

Invitation to Attend

MERT meetings are open to all interested Amateur radio enthusiast, CERT, ARES, Skywarn members and the General Public who are interested in learning more about participating in this important volunteer Amateur radio organization.

Interested in learning more..... or becoming a MERT member?

Visit <https://kg4nxo.com/> and click the "Contact Us" tab!