



THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of the TAMAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Incorporated 30 November 1984 – Venice, Florida
Mailing Address: 1419 E. Manasota Beach Rd., Englewood, FL 34223-6341
W4AC Repeater – 444.100 MHz & 146.805 MHz(-) w/100 Hz PL
Web Site – <http://tamiamiarc.org>



-- JUNE 2010 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

This past month was another busy one for me. While the scheduled work on the repeaters' antennas was delayed one week, Ron LeBrun-KB4RON and Julio Peralta-W4HY carried out the changes in fine order. The 444.10 MHz antenna is up at 200', right on top of the tower. The 146.805 MHz antenna has the top of the array at 200'. Both repeaters are running normally and the results are as good as expected. Now, if we could just get more members to make use of these two repeaters!!!!

While on the tower, Ronnie removed the lower multi-band inverted-v antenna. The Flex-3000 that utilized that antenna was experiencing interference, such that it was not of use. The Flex and the antenna have now been reinstalled elsewhere, with the peak of the antenna up at 60'. Again, our members are encouraged to make use of these two remote controlled radios.

I went up to the Dayton Hamvention and found it to be well attended, with some new products on display for the first time. However, I'm really looking forward to going over to Friedrichshafen, Germany in June for what is, without a doubt, the largest hamfest in the world. I may not understand a lot of the lingo being spoken around me over there, but some sights speak louder than words.

I'm making one more appeal that our members make use of our repeaters and remote HF radios. A lot of time and money have been invested in these facilities, and it's a crying shame that they are so under-utilized. Turn on your FM radios and/or your computers, and make use of these communications tools.

73 to All de Stew-W4MO

-- JUNE MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **6:00 PM** on Tuesday, **01 June 2010** in the Meeting Room of the Venice Public Library, 300 South Nokomis Avenue. After the business meeting, Stew Haag-W4MO will describe how our two remote control HF radios can be utilized. Come out and learn about making use of these facilities!

-- HE'S UP FOR THE TASK! --



Ron LeBrun-KB4RON works his way up the repeater tower. The standoff for the Kenwood HF antenna is just above him.

--VOTE ON NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS --

As noted in the Minutes, at our April meeting the membership voted to establish a new membership category for students. The following By-laws amendment to add the category of Student Membership was published in the May issue of *The Communicator* and read at the 04 May meeting, as follows:

"Student Membership, comprising licensed Amateur Radio operators who are students under the age of 18 years, upon payment of dues of \$5 per year. Such members shall not be eligible to vote on Club matters."

As 30 days notice has been duly given, the membership at the 01 June meeting will thereby vote in this amendment to the Bylaws.

TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Minutes of the Meeting
04 May 2010

President Stew Haag-W4MO called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM and, following a flag salute, introductions were made all around. Lin DeVecchio-N2ROM from Sarasota was welcomed as a visitor.

MINUTES – Secretary Jack Sproat-W4JS asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the 06 April 2010 meeting as published in the May 2010 issue of *The Communicator*. Dil Kay-W8DIL so moved, seconded by Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Nothing received or sent during the past month.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Don Jansen-KI4VGE reported that the starting balance was \$1936.38. Receipts were \$25.00 from the April 50/50, \$30.00 from 2010 membership dues payments, \$24.00 Scholarship Donation by Jim Murdock-KG4KOT, and \$16.00 for call sign badges, totaling \$95.00. Expenses were \$14.34 for DayStar Internet service, \$21.75 for three call sign badges, and \$289.48 for 180' of LMR600 coax cable for the 2-meter repeater antenna, totaling \$325.57. The 04 May 2010 ending balance is \$1705.81. San Yoder-K3SY moved to approve the report, seconded by Ron Hogarth-K4AUX, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – Matt Klapp-W2EQV commented that all was quiet.

VE TESTING – Jack-W4JS reported that our next regularly scheduled VE session will be at 10 AM on 08 May, with probably three candidates. In addition, there will be an extraordinary VE session the same day at the Sarasota Red Cross building at 5:30 PM.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Switching placement of the 146 and 444 MHz antennas on the tower should take place this Friday or Saturday, with new LMR600 coax being installed to the 2-meter antenna at its new location. It is expected that these antenna revisions will result in improved operation of the two repeaters. In response to Stew's query of how many members present have 440 capability, a show of hands indicated about eight or more members.

CLUB PROPERTY – No inventory changes.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – San Yoder-K3SY reported that we now have 88 members, including seven Life Members, 18 First-Year Free members, and 63 paid-up members.

NET OPERATIONS – Net Manager Bob Murphy-WA1UHG was not present.

LIAISON TO EARS – Conrad Owens-WA3RRS reported that EARS is looking for a site for this year's Field Day operation.

LIAISON TO QCWA – Jack-W4JS stated that Suncoast Chapter 53's 07 April luncheon/meeting attracted 37 members/spouses/friends. Tomorrow, 05 May, the Chapter will meet at 11:30 AM at Denny's on Bee Ridge Road in Sarasota. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB will give a PowerPoint presentation on his travels in Egypt.

OLD BUSINESS – Stew-W4MO has met with several persons at the company that owns the repeater site, however, discussion of a lease agreement has not come up.

Jon Hamlet-W4ZW provided updates on our current relationships with organizations and schools.

Pine View School – Graduating Senior Zhu Simeng-KJ4KTI received notification that he will receive a ham radio scholarship..

Sarasota Military Academy – Jon gave a PP presentation on EchoLink to a small group of students.

Suncoast Polytechnical High School – Students are busy with preparation from school exams. During a recent demonstration at the school, Jon attracted attention while attempting a moonbounce contact.

Riverview High School – Nothing from this school as yet.

Sarasota Red Cross – All equipment has been repaired. Planning to participate in Field Day while using the Red Cross communications trailer from, as yet, an undetermined location.

NEW BUSINESS – Bylaws Amendment – Stew announced the following: In an effort to retain younger members who were granted First Year Free status, but none of whom stayed on to become a full, dues paying member, at our April meeting the membership voted that we establish a new membership category for students. The following Bylaws amendment to add the category of Student Membership was published in the May issue of *The Communicator*, as follows:

“Student Membership, comprising licensed Amateur Radio operators who are students under the age of 18 years, upon payment of dues of \$5 per year. Such members shall not be eligible to vote on Club matters.”

See **MINUTES**, pg. 4

CURRENT/PENDING DX ACTIVITY & PROPAGATION HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT and/or SCHEDULED DX ACTIVITY										
COUNTRY – CALL SIGN	ACTIVITY PERIOD	BEARING	HF BANDS and BEST OPENING TIMES (GMT)							
			80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
Marion Island – ZS8M (for one year)	Now on the Air	130	00-06	06-08	07-08	10-12	10-11	NO	NO	NO
St Vincent – J88CF; Kumar, native resident	Very Active!	121	22-11	00-24	10-05	22-02	17-03	NO	NO	NO
Mayotte – FH8ND; little activity 'til late June	Now to 15 Aug	85	00-04	23-05	04-05	05-06	0500	NO	NO	NO
Macquarie Is – VK0/ZL4DB; spare time op.	Now to 14 Aug	220	04-11	01-05	02-04	00-02	NO	NO	NO	NO
Belize – V31XB; HF + 6 meters	Now to 14 June	211	--	00-24	11-06	16-04	17-03	NO	NO	NO
Chad – TT8PK; SSB, CW, some RTTY	Now to 10 June	73	00-05	22-06	22-06	17-00	16-21	16-21	NO	NO
Palestine – E4X; Multinational team operation	Now to 06 June	49	00-03	23-05	23-05	17-05	17-23	17-23	NO	NO
Tokelau – ZK3X; Ukrainian DX Group	Now to 06 June	262	05-12	03-13	03-13	18-07	18-05	23-03	23-03	NO
Ascension Is – ZD8J	02 to 08 June	108	23-08	21-10	20-04	10-00	18-23	16-21	16-21	NO
Mongolia – JT0YAB, JT0YW, JT0YPS	03 to 08 June	354	--	NO	NO	22-06	08-17	NO	NO	NO
West Kiribati – T30XG; HF + 6 meters	03 to 09 June	277	--	05-13	--	19-14	09-14	00-05	00-05	NO
Maldives – 8Q7TB	05 to 26 June	41	00-01	23-02	0130	02-04	02-04	NO	NO	NO
Singapore – 9V1/AD6ZJ; mainly weekends	06 to 28 June	347	NO	NO	NO	12-13	12-13	NO	NO	NO
San Andres Is – 5J0BV; HF + 6 meters	10 to 21 June	177	20-14	00-24	00-24	18-03	21-03	17-03	--	--
Albania – ZA/HA5X; holiday style operation	10 to 24 June	48	00-04	22-06	22-06	13-00	20-23	20-23	NO	NO
Guernsey Is – 2U0WMG	11 to 17 June	46	00-06	22-08	21-09	15-00	15-00	NO	NO	NO
Malta – 9H3XW,9H3BS,9H3MK;individ ops	12 to 25 June	55	00-04	22-07	22-07	13-01	17-00	17-00	NO	NO
Liechtenstein – HBO/OU4U	22 to 27 June	46	00-05	22-08	22-07	15-00	15-00	NO	NO	NO

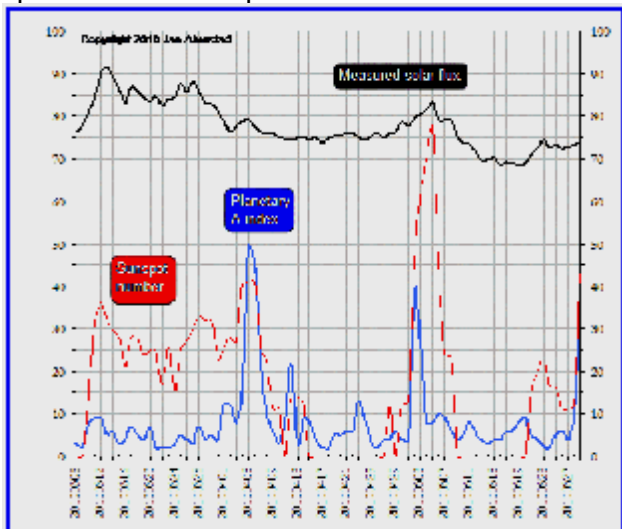
Updated 28 May 2010, based on 26 May 2010 *QRZ DX*, 24 May 2010 *The Weekly DX* and <http://www.ng3k.com>

Notes: Time in bold = Band(s) with 75-100% opening; ??? = Call Sign not yet known; ++ = Mostly Phone; ** = Mostly CW; NO = No Opening forecast. Long Path bearings and opening times are underlined. All forecasts calculated using *W6ELProp V.2.60* propagation software, available to download at <http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/>. Solar Flux and K-index varied by date in accordance with USAF 45-Day A/P Forecast.

-- MAY SOLAR ACTIVITY --

Through 30 May the Solar Flux ranged from 69 to 83, with a mean value of 74.0 (vs. 70.6 for May 2009 and 68.4 for May 2008). The A-index was ≥ 7 on 13 days. The average daily SSN was 17.6, with the Sun being spotless for 11 days.

Sunspot Regions 1064 thru 1075 formed during May. While several C-class solar flares occurred during May, the geomagnetic field disturbances during May were generally due to coronal mass ejections and the resultant high speed solar wind speeds.



(Courtesy of: Jan Alvestad, <http://www.solen.info/solar/>)

-- JUNE FORECAST --

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit. Solar flux are expected to be at high levels 01-09 June. The geomagnetic field

should be quiet to unsettled 01 June. Quite levels should prevail 02-14 June. Quiet to active levels are expected 15-16 June, with generally quiet levels through to 30 June. June's solar flux should average 75.5.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 25 May 2010, NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table, 25 May 2010, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 28 May 2010)

-- 2009 DX MARATHON AWARD WINNER --

CQ sponsors an annual DX Marathon to see how many DX countries and CQ Zones can be worked during the calendar year by the participating stations. For the 2009 event, 320 stations in 48 countries and 23 CQ zones submitted logs, and the results were published in the June 2010 issue of CQ.

While well-known DXer Bob Locher-W9KNI worked 281 countries and all 40 zones in the Mixed/Unlimited category, TARC's Jack Sproat-W4JS took First Place in the All SSB/Unlimited category, having worked 244 countries in all 40 zones during the 12-month period.

In 2008, First Place in All SSB went to OZ1ADL, who worked 241 countries. So, in spite of there being 3% fewer countries being available during 2009, both the Mixed and All SSB winners produced more countries worked.

Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.

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JUNE CONTESTS & ACTIVITIES

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
UKSMG Summer Contest	1300Z 05 June 1300Z 06 June	6 Meters Only SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	6-digit Grid Square
SEANET Contest	1200Z 05 June 1200Z 06 June	80 – 10 Meters SSB, CW, Digital	Only South East Asia Net Stations	R/S/(T), Serial Number
Portugal Day	0000Z 12 June 2359Z 12 June	80 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/(T), Serial Number
Australian Shires Contest	0600Z 12 June 0600Z 13 June	80 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Australian Stations Only	R/S/(T), CQ Zone
Asia-Pacific Sprint	1100Z 12 June 1300Z 12 June	20 & 15 Meters SSB Only	Pacific stations west of 180° Longitude	R/S, Serial Number
Grupo Argentino de CW DX Contest	1500Z 12 June 1500Z 13 June	80 – 10 Meters CW Only	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/T, CQ Zone
ARRL VHF QSO Party	1800Z 12 June 0300Z 14 June	6 Meters and Up SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	4-digit Grid Square
All-Asian DX Contest	0000Z 19 June 2400Z 20 June	160 – 6 Meters CW Only	Asian Stations Only	R/S/T, Operator Age
SMIRK QSO Party	0000Z 19 June 2359Z 20 June	6 Meters Only SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	Call Sign, Grid Square
His Majesty King of Spain Contest	1200Z 26 June 1200Z 27 June	160 – 10 Meters SSB Only	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S, Serial Number
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z 26 June 1400Z 27 June	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/T, Serial Number
ARRL Field Day	1800Z 26 June 2100Z 27 June	160 Meters & Up SSB, CW, Digital	Anyone, Anywhere (see ARRL site for category)	Category, ARRL Section

From ARRL "Contest Corral," June 2010 *QST* and June 2010 *WorldRadio Online*

MINUTES, from pg. 2

As 30 days' notice is required before the membership can vote to ratify this amendment, the final vote will occur at our 01 June TARC meeting.

Life Membership Nomination – Stew nominated both Lee Darby-K4GCY and Mel Bullock-W4PSE for Honorary Life Membership. Both meet the criteria for Life Membership, e.g., they are unable to attend meetings but have maintained their membership. Both are faithful in attending our Tuesday breakfasts, and Lee has a great record for assisting at our VE sessions. Stew added that he has known Mel since his days up in Louisville. Jon Hamlet-W4ZW moved that K4GCY and W4PSE be granted Life Membership, seconded by Bernie Holtman-W4GO, and passed by voice vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – Vic Ouelette-K1CGI asked why just students were considered in the Student Membership amendment. It was explained that none of the First Year Free members who were students had stayed with us as dues paying members, and

this was an inducement to keep such students in the club.

Andy Durette-KB1HIP remarked that the owner of Ferguson Electronics often has customers inquiring if there is a local ham radio club, and he wonders if the TARC brochure is being updated. There is some work in progress on a new brochure.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn at 6:34 PM was made by Conrad Owens-WA3RRS, seconded by Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX and passed. There were 22 members and one visitor present.

PROGRAM – Jon Hamlet-W4ZW offered a very informative PP presentation on the workings of EchoLink and VoIP.

Jack Sproat-W4JS
Secretary

-- TARC NET REMINDER --

Tuesdays, Simplex Net, 7:30 PM on 146.580
Wednesdays, DX Net, 8:00 PM on 146.805 (-)
Thursdays, Emergency Net, 7:30 PM on 146.805 (-)

-- REGIONAL REPEATERS --

Arcadia	W4MIN	147.075(+)	100 Hz
Arcadia	W4MIN	147.180(+)	
Englewood	N4EAR	146.700(-)	77 Hz
Englewood	K0DGF	146.775(-)	77 Hz
Englewood	W4AC	146.805(-)	103.5 Hz
Grove City	K8ONV	146.865(-)	136.5 Hz
Laurel	N4SER	145.130(-)	
North Port	K4NPT	147.120(+)	136.5 Hz
North Port	W0AC	146.970(-)	136.5 Hz
Pt. Charlotte	N4FOB	146.925(-)	136.5 Hz
Pt. Charlotte	KS4ST	147.015(+)	
Pt. Charlotte	W4DUX	147.255(+)	136.5 Hz
Punta Gorda	WX4E	146.745(-)	136.5 Hz
Punta Gorda	KF4QWC	146.685(-)	136.5 Hz
Sarasota	W4IE	146.910(-)	
Sarasota	N4SER	146.730(-)	100 Hz
Sarasota	N4SER	147.390(+)	100Hz
Sarasota	KF4RJC	145.370(-)	74.4 Hz
Verna	NI4CE	145.430(-)	100 Hz

(From Florida Repeater Council web site)

-- RELOCATED ANTENNA ARRAYS --



Following the work of Ron LeBrun-KB4RON and Julio Peralta-W4HY, the 440 MHz 4-bay array is on top of the 200' tower, with the 2-meter 4-bay array immediately below. The 440 array is fed with 3/4" hard line; the 2-meter array with new LMR-600, which is electrically equivalent to 1/2" hard line. Now, folks, make use of them!

-- JON GIVES A LEARNING SESSION --



At our May meeting, Jon Hamlet-W4ZW gave us an in-depth PowerPoint presentation on just how the EchoLink and VoIP modes work. It seems that all digital communications have a lot in common with each other.

-- CONGRATS, LEE AND MEL --



Our two most recent Honorary Life Members and Lee Darby-K4GCY (r) and Mel Bullock-W4PSE (l), who were granted that distinction at our May meeting. Both take their eating seriously, and are pretty faithful in attending our Tuesday breakfasts at Peach's. Congratulations to both of you from all of us!

-- PROGRAMS ANYONE? --

The key to good attendance at club meetings is a good program that will encourage members to attend those meetings. TARC does not have a Program Manager, therefore we depend on some of our members to prepare and offer programs. If you know any outsiders who could offer interesting programs, please let us know.

June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM TARC Meet- ing @ 6 PM, Venice Library	2 QCWA Lunch, 11:30 AM @ Panda Pavilion, TARC DX Net 8 PM, W4AC Repeater	3 TARC Emergency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	4 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	5
6	7	7 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	9 TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	10 TARC Emer- gency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	11 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	12 TARC VE Session @ 10:00 AM, Venice Public Library
13	14 DARN Emer- gency Net @ 11 AM & 7:30 PM, Starts on W4AC re- peater 146.805	15 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	16 TARC DX Net 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	17 TARC Emer- gency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	18 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	19
20	21	22 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	23 TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	24 TARC Emer- gency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	25 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	26
27	28	29 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	30 TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805			

NOTE: If the W4AC Repeater is inoperative, nets scheduled for activity on the repeater will be held on the simplex frequency of 146.580 MHz. Thanks for your cooperation.

**TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Class ___ ARRL (Y/N)___

Local Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Summer Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Tel. No. _____ E-Mail _____ Application Date _____

Please check activity interests: Ass't Net Control___, RFI/TVI___, VE Testing___, Training___, Packet___, RTTY___, Computers___, DXing___, Contests___, Field Day___, Publicity___, Emergency Communications___, Special Events___, VHF/UHF___, SSTV___, ATV___, Repeater___, EchoLink___, Other (specify) _____

Voluntary Contribution to the Tamiami ARC Scholarship Fund _____

Single Member @ \$15.00/year ___, Family Membership @ \$20.00/year___ (\$8.00 after 30 June for remainder of calendar year. \$15.00 after 31 October grants membership through remainder of year and all of the following year.)

MAIL TO: TARC, 1419 E. MANASOTA BEACH RD, ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223-6341

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1419 E. MANASOTA BEACH ROAD
ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223-6341**

The Communicator is a monthly publication
Of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
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Treasurer: Don Jansen-KI4VGE
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Jack Gaddas-KY1Z
Bob Avrutik-N1RA