



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 Repeaters – 444.100 MHz(+) & 146.805 MHz(-) both w/100 Hz PL

Web Site – <http://tamiamiarc.org>



-- AUGUST 2014 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

You folks up north have missed some of our local excitement these last couple of months, so let me fill you in. About the middle of June we received notice that our repeater site in Englewood was being sold, thereby causing a huge amount of concern to those of us in the VHF & UHF community. We waited to see what would transpire concerning the site and our usage thereof.

On July 1st I was contacted by the new owner, Mr. Jon Cole of Englewood. After our initial contact and some follow up talks, Stew Haag-W4MO and I met with Mr. Cole at the site. After some further discussion, Mr. Cole made us an offer which amazed me to say the least. He gave us the right to continue using the site for as long as he owned the building. In return we will maintain the site and grant him membership in the TARC. Mr. Cole is a Professional Engineer with an interest in working towards his Ham License, and we will most certainly give him our support as needed.

With gratitude, please welcome our newest member, Jon Cole!!

VY 73 to All de Fred-KJ4TNI

-- AUGUST MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **13 August 2014** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB has promised a program showing ham radio in action. We'll send out details in the e-mail meeting reminder.

-- ALL MANUALS ARE UP TO DATE --

Early this year the TARC purchased and donated ARRL Q&A license manuals to the Venice Public Library. As the Element 2, Technician Q&A's were phasing out 30 June 2014, only one copy of that manual was purchased. We have just acquired three copies of the new Element 2 Q&A manuals (valid 01 July 2014-30 June 2018), of which two have been donated to the Library to replace the now

void manuals. One is in the reference section of the Library, where it cannot be checked out. One copy is on the open shelves, where it can be checked out or requisitioned by any Sarasota County library. The third copy is retained by the Club for use by members and persons who request study material with the proviso that they will seriously consider joining the TARC upon passing the exam.

-- 2014 WRTC MEDAL WINNERS --



The US didn't do very well in the FIFA World Cup, but a US team did take first place in the 24-hour 2014 World Radio Team Championship (WRTC) held 12-13 July. The WRTC pits the world's best contest operators in 2-man teams against each other while using identical antennas and only 100 watts power. This year the 59 teams were clustered in relatively topographically identical sites up in the Boston area.

The First Place team (4572 QSO's) of Dan Craig-N6MJ and Christ Hurlbut-KL9A stand in the center, flanked by the 2nd Place team (4508 Q's) from the Slovak Republic, Rastislav Hrnko-OM3BH and Jozef Lang-OM3GI (on the left) and the 3rd Place team (4347 Q's) from Germany, Stefan vonBaltz-DL1IAO and Manfred Wold-DJ5MW (on the right).

(Photo by Bob Wilson-N6TV in *The ARRL Letter*, 17 July 2014)

Several informative WRTC photos can be seen on subsequent pages.

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the Meeting
09 July 2014**

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM with a flag pledge. Introductions were then made all around.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 11 June meeting as published in the July issue of *The Communicator*. Bob Avrutik-N1RA so moved, seconded by Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Jack-W4JS advised that the 11 desktop call signs had been shipped today by the craftsman down in Cape Coral, and Thursday receipt is expected.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Dave Gill-K4JDG reported that the starting balance was \$4645.49. Receipts were \$14.00 from the June 50/50 and a \$14.00 donation from Pat Marx-N4PRM, totaling \$28.00. Expenses were \$24.00 to Calkins LP Gas Co. for gas for the generator, \$251.22 to Mercer Insurance for coverage of repeater equipment, and \$302.00 to TARQ Insurance for liability insurance, totaling \$577.22. The 30 June closing balance was \$4,096.27. Al Culbert-NOAL moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Don Jansen-KI4VGE, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – Jack-W4JS reported that Jennifer Brown, daughter of Bruce Brown-WA8IQF, just had serious gall bladder and liver surgery, and that a card had been sent.

VE TESTING – We had 10 candidates at our 14 June VE session, and all were successful with upgrades and new licenses. To date there have been two inquiries from potential candidates for our 12 July VE session.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Fred informed the members that the property where our repeaters are located has been sold to Jonathan Cole, President of Giffels-Webster Engineers, Inc. Fred and Mr. Cole have had some discussions regarding our lease agreement with the previous owners. It was suggested that Fred emphasize the role of the Diocese Amateur Radio Network (DARN) and that organization's use of our repeater for its emergency net operations. A meeting will be scheduled between Fred and Mr. Cole in the near future.

At this time discussion ensued regarding the economic costs of the repeater compared with the benefits. Should we again pay \$600 annually for the lease plus some \$250 for equipment insurance, that \$850 represents a large expense

especially when the repeaters are used to such a minor degree. If our membership remains stable, annual income from dues will be in the range of \$1400. Further discussion will be continued at our August meeting.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – San Yoder reported that the 27 June roster shows 55 Regular members five Life members and seven Student members, and for a total of 67 members.

NET OPERATIONS – There is a continuing need for better participation by the members.

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 13 members and spouses at our 02 July lunch at the Hibachi Grill Buffet In Bird Bay Plaza. Any and all are welcome to join us the first Wednesday of each month around 11 AM.

OLD BUSINESS – Volunteer for PIO Position: While no one has yet volunteered for this position, Fred intends to research the names and addresses of the hams in this locality and to develop a form of outreach to them.

NEW BUSINESS – Nothing.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – Nothing.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn was made at 7:27 by Pat Marx-N4PRM, seconded by San Yoder-K3SY, and passed. There were 13 members present.

PROGRAM – As no formal program was scheduled, the members were invited to discuss their personal experiences in ham radio. Following Fred's comments about his "Go Bag" the discussion centered on the pros and cons of the federal government getting involved in contracts between property owners and their home owners associations.

Jack Sproat-W4JS
Secretary

-- K1MAN FINALLY SHUT DOWN --

Glenn Baxter, who held K1MAN, was a frequent thorn in the side of the FCC, which had cited him multiple times for a variety of alleged rule violations, including transmissions in which he had a financial interest, causing interference to other stations and failing to exercise control of his station. His license expired in October, 2005, but the FCC deferred action on his renewal application, eventually designating it for a hearing (in 2011), and fining him \$10,000 for rules violations. Baxter did not pay that fine, and that became the basis for the FCC's 23 June 2014 decision to deny his license renewal, exercising its "Red Light Rule," which states that it may dismiss a license application if the applicant has an unpaid debt to the Commission.

(From *ARRL Letter*, 03 July 2014)

MAJOR CURRENT/UPCOMING DX ACTIVITY & PROPAGATION HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT and/or SCHEDULED DX ACTIVITY										
COUNTRY – CALL SIGN	ACTIVITY PERIOD	BEARING	HF BANDS and BEST OPENING TIMES (UTC)							
			80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
Svalbard – JW/UA3IPL; all modes	Now to 28 Aug	13	01-06	00-09	23-08	11-03	14-00	16-23	14-01	NO
Minami Torishima – JD1/JG8NQJ; **	Now to 19 Aug	308	08-11	07-13	06-13	02-15	20-04	20-01	19-03	NO
Nauru – C21BN; by JH1NBN, ++	Now to 16 Aug	279	06-12	05-13	05-14	01-16	19-05	19-04	19-00	20-01
Rotuma – 3D2AG/p	Now to 08 Aug	263	--	04-13	04-14	01-15	18-14	18-06	18-04	19-04
Tanzania – 5H1NE; by IW2NEF, ++	Now to 06 Aug	83	00-04	23-05	23-05	19-07	15-01	14-01	14-00	13-00
Timor Leste – 4W/NB3MM; ++, some digital	Now to 05 Aug	300	--	--	08-13	05-16	02-18	22-18	15-01	--
Crete – SV9/ON6DSL; ++, holiday style	01 to 10 Aug	51	00-04	22-06	22-06	17-06	13-00	13-00	10-00	NO
Tonga – A35UO; by G4BUO, **, holiday styl	01 to 14 Aug	253	05-12	03-13	03-14	17-14	18-07	18-06	19-04	19-01
Corsica – TK50O; by F5OZF & F5RXL	01 to 15 Aug	51	00-06	22-08	21-08	12-05	13-00	13-00	10-00	NO
Easter Is – XR0YNTT; by CE2NTT, ++	01 to 04 Aug	208	--	00-13	--	13-09	14-07	15-05	17-03	17-01
Christmas Is – VK9EX; 5-man JA team	02 to 06 Aug	334	NO	1100	1100	09-14	14-02	16-03	11-00	15-20
Oman – A43MI; Omani team, all modes	07 to 11 Aug	43	00-02	23-03	23-03	19-05	17-22	16-21	16-21	NO
Jersey – MJOEXV/GJOVNK; all modes	08 to 12 Aug	46	00-06	22-09	21-10	10-02	14-00	18-22	14-22	NO
Mariana Is – NH0J; 2-man JA team, all modes	10 to 15 Aug	306	08-11	07-13	07-13	02-15	20-02	21-03	21-03	NO
Tonga – A35AC, CO, LJ & TR, all modes	16 to 24 Aug	253	05-12	03-13	03-14	17-13	18-06	18-05	18-02	18-01
Chagos – VQ9XR; by N7XR	25 Aug – 15 Sept	54	00-01	23-02	22-02	19-05	12-23	15-22	15-22	13-23
Fiji – 3D2AC, CO, LJ & TR, all modes	26 Aug – 02 Sept	258	05-12	04-13	04-13	01-15	12-06	18-05	18-04	19-00
Mariana Is – KH0/OZ0J; **, digital	26 Aug – 02 Sept	306	08-12	07-12	07-13	03-15	13-04	20-01	21-00	21-00

Updated 28 July based on the 28 July *The Weekly DX* and the NG3K DX Page, <http://www.ng3k.com>

Notes: **Time in bold** = the Bands with 75-100% opening; ??? = Call Sign not yet known; ++ = Mostly SSB; ** = Mostly CW; NO = No Opening forecast. Long Path bearings and opening times are underlined. All forecasts calculated using *W6ELProp* propagation software. Solar Flux and K-index varied by date in accordance with the NOAA SWPC 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table and USAF 45 Day AP Forecast.

-- JULY SOLAR ACTIVITY --

The Solar Flux ranged from 86 to 201, with a mean value of 137.3 (vs. 115.6 for July 2013 and 135.6 for July 2012), and the A_p index was ≥ 7 on five days. The sunspot number through 30 July ranged from 0 to 256, with a mean of 112.8. A total of 4 M-class and 130 C-class flares occurred through 30 July.

Before 17 July 2014, the previous spotless day for the Sun was 14 August 2011, a gap of nearly 3 years.

Quiet conditions were generally prevalent other than some disturbed conditions 08-10, 14-15, 25 and 28 July.

-- AUGUST FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at predominantly low levels with a chance for moderate level activity (R1 radio blackouts) 01-09 and 24-25 August due to the presence of several complex regions on the disk.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be normal to isolated moderate levels.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at mostly quiet levels for the majority of the month in the absence of transient features. Unsettled to active conditions are possible associated with high speed solar wind streams on 05-06, 10, 22 and 24-25 August

The Solar Flux should range from 90 to 140, and average 116.5 during August.

(From *NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 28 July 2014, *NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 28 July 2014, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 28 July 2014.)

-- THE DXCC LADIES --



The DXCC ladies (L-R) Gloria, Sani, Sharon and Sabrina were present during the ARRL Centennial Convention tour at ARRL HQ in Newington.

(Photo by Bernie McClenny-W3UR in *The Weekly DX*, 21 July 2014)

While DXCC Manager Bill Moore-NC1L is recovering from a serious auto accident, it looks like the DXCC Department is in excellent hands. (Sabrina did a fantastic job attending to your editor's application for Phone Honor Roll [339/350] a couple years ago.)

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING AUGUST

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
TARA Grid Dip Shindig	0000Z 02 Aug 2359Z 02 Aug	160 – 6 Meters RTTY & PSK	Anyone, Anywhere	Name, grid square
10-10 Summer Phone QSO Party	0001Z 02 Aug 2359Z 03 Aug	10 Meters Only SSB Only	Members of 10-10 International	Calls, name, "0", state
North American QSO Party	1800Z 02 Aug 0600Z 03 Aug	80 – 10 Meters CW Only	NA countries, KL7, KH6, and DXCC entities	Name, state
South Africa DX SSB Contest	1300Z 03 Aug 1630Z 03 Aug	80 – 20 Meters SSB Only	South African stations only	RS, serial
Worked All Europe Contest	0000Z 09 Aug 2359Z 10 Aug	80 – 10 Meters CW Only	European stations; see www.waedc.de for QTC procedure	RST, serial
Straight Key Week-end Sprintathon	1200Z 09 Aug 2359Z 10 Aug	160 – 6 Meters CW Only	Straight Key Century Club members (who must use hand keys, bugs, etc.)	RST, state, "none"
Fall VHF Sprint	2300Z 09 Aug 0300Z 10 Aug	6 Meters Only SSB, CW, Digi	Anyone, Anywhere	Grid square
SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z 16 Aug 1600Z 17 Aug	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere; see www.sartg.com for activity time slots	RST, serial
Russian District Award Contest	0800Z 16 Aug 0800Z 17 Aug	160 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Russian stations only	RS(T), serial
Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	1200Z 16 Aug 1200Z 17 Aug	160 – 6 Meters CW Only	Japanese stations only	RST, continent
North American QSO Party	1800Z 16 Aug 0600Z 17 Aug	80 – 10 Meters SSB Only	NA countries, KL7, KH6, and DXCC entities	Name, state
Dominican Republic Contest	0000Z 17 Aug 2359Z 17 Aug	80 & 40 Meters SSB Only	Dominican Republic stations only	RS, serial
South Africa Digital Contest	1300Z 17 Aug 1630Z 17 Aug	80 – 20 Meters RTTY Only	South African stations only	RST, serial
South Africa DX CW Contest	1300Z 24 Aug 1630Z 24 Aug	80 – 20 Meters CW Only	South African stations only	RST, serial
SCC RTTY Championship	1200Z 30 Aug 1159Z 31 Aug	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, year first licensed
Romanian DX HF Contest	1200Z 30 Aug 1159Z 31 Aug	80 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), serial

Legend: Serial = 3-digit sequential number of contact starting with 001; S/P/C = State, Province, DXCC Entity
 From ARRL "Contest Corral" and WA7BNM Contest Calendar at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>
 NOTE: State QSO Parties are not shown. See above references for such information.

-- BIG FINES FROM THE FCC --

The FCC Enforcement Bureau came down hard on two radio amateurs recently, proposing substantial fines for alleged deliberate interference to other Amateur Radio communications — in one case by transmitting music and animal noises — and failure to properly identify. In similar *Notices of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture* (NALs) released July 22, the Commission proposed fining Michael Guernsey-KZ8O, of Parchment, Michigan, \$22,000, and Brian Crow-K3VR, of North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, \$11,500. In both cases, the FCC said the evidence indicated that the transmissions at issue were aimed at interfering with other radio amateurs with whom each "has had a long-standing

and well-documented dispute" that had spilled out onto the air.

According to the NAL issued to Guernsey, the FCC agents monitored transmissions from his station for approximately 40 minutes on March 7, 2014, "and heard him transmit a pre-recorded song and various animal noises on the frequency." According to the NAL issued to Crow, FCC agents monitored transmissions from his station for approximately 3 hours on the morning of March 14, 2014, and heard him transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) signals and "a pre-recorded voice transmission of another amateur station on the frequency."

"These transmissions prevented other
 See **BIG FINES**, page 5

BIG FINES, from page 4

amateur licensees from communicating over the frequency,” the NALs said, adding that neither Guernsey or Crow transmitted their assigned call signs while the agents were listening.

(From ARRL web site, 29 July 2014)

-- PUTTING 'EM UP FOR THE WRTC --



Here's a fine example of the classic "falling derrick" procedure for raising a tower and beam. The tower is 40' of Rohn 25 with a 2X Arrays TX38 tri-band yagi on top. A $\pm 20'$ length of pipe, i.e., the "derrick", has been attached to the hinged base of the tower. After assembly and mounting of the rotator and beam on the tower, at ground level, supported at the top end by a step ladder, stabilizing guys and the raising cable are attached to the tower. A winch or vehicle is connected via cable to the top of the "falling derrick" and the derrick is slowly pulled down to the ground as the derrick pulls up the tower. This was the method used to erect all of the 59 team stations for the international 2014 WRTC competition held 12-13 July up in the Boston area. (Photo by Bob Marchese-K1NOK, who was on a volunteer site preparation team.)



A view of WRTC Site 14D where LY9A and LY4L operated as W1A. (Bob Wilson-N6TV Photo)



Inside the tent with the Lithuanian WRTC team operating W1A with Referee K4BAI monitoring their activities. (Photo by Bob Wilson-N6TV.)

A variety of WRTC photos can be seen at <http://www.ey8mm.com/pictures/view-album/63>

-- 100 YEARS OF HAM RADIO AND ARRL --

During the decade of the 1960s and subsequently, Gus Browning-W4BPD, traveled the world and operated from over 100 countries, many of them extremely rare ones and sometimes the first ham operation for that country. Gus was the first DXer elected to CQ's DX Hall of Fame.

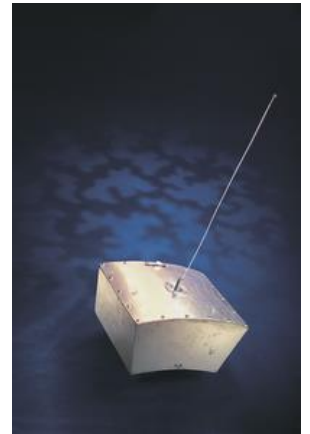
On December 12, 1961, OSCAR 1, the first Amateur Radio satellite, was launched into orbit. OSCAR 2 followed on June 2, 1962.

By 1963, the US ham population had reached a quarter of a million, although at that time there were more CB operators than hams.

During the 1960s, repeater operation began on 2 meters. At first, there was a fair amount of confusion but eventually things settled down, and repeater operation on 2 meters took off, with repeater operation on other VHF/UHF ham bands and 6 meters soon to follow.

On March 27, 1964, hams responded when a magnitude 9.2 earthquake and the resulting tsunami struck Alaska.

Late in 1967, incentive licensing returned to ham radio. This had been an on-again/off-again issue with FCC for about 15 years. -- Al Brogdon, W1AB; *The ARRL Letter*, 24 July 2014



An ARRL prototype of OSCAR 1.

August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	QCWA, 11:15 @ Hibachi Grill Buffet Bird Bay Plaza, 41 By- pass	TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	TARC VE Session @ 10:00 AM, Venice Library
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	DARN Emer- gency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE re- peater 145.430	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	TARC Meet- ing @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center	TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr		TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr		TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	

NOTE: If the W4AC 146.805 Repeater or the 444.100 Repeater are inoperative, nets scheduled for activity will be held on 146.580 MHz simplex. 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) _____

Regular Member @ \$25.00/year __, Family Membership @ \$30.00/year __, Non-Voting Student Membership @ \$5.00/year __. (New Regular Members joining after 30 June pay \$15.00 for remainder of calendar year. \$25.00 dues payment 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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ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223-6341**

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