



THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of the TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Incorporated 30 November 1984 – Venice, Florida
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274
W4AC Repeaters – 444.100 MHz(DMR) & 146.805 MHz(-) both w/100 Hz PL
Web Site – <http://tamiamiarc.org>



-- AUGUST 2016 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

After Frank Wroblewski-W2XYZ and I replaced one of the wheels on our emergency power generator at the Paul Morris repeater site, I was wondering if we, our members, all had a family emergency plan in place before the hurricane season starts. So I put together a list of items recommended by the Catholic Charities of Florida to have in case of an emergency:

1. Three days of food and water. One gallon of water per person per day.
2. RX Medications.
3. Cash in case the ATMs go down.
4. Flash light and batteries.
5. Battery powered radio with NOAA Weather capability.
6. A Jump Start power pack for powering your ham or other radios and to charge your cell phone. A good one with USB charging capability can be purchased at Harbor Freight normally at a big discount.
7. RX Medications
8. Full tank of gas for your vehicle.
9. First Aid Kit
10. A manual can opener and a basic set of tools.
11. Important Family Documents such as insurance policies and identification papers, including driver's license and/or passport.

This list is just a start and is presented as a way to get you started on preparing your own custom family emergency kit. A lot of information is available on the internet. One site that is helpful is: <https://www.ready.gov/kit>

I will be going back to NH next week to finish off the rest of the summer there. Vice President Gary Hagens-K6OC, will preside over the next couple of TARC meeting in my absence.

VY 73 de Andy-KB1HIP

Sometimes.....money costs too much.

Do not underestimate yourself. Human beings have unlimited potentials.

To achieve a great goal, one must begin with a small achievement.

-- AUGUST MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **10 August 2016** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB will present a program on Electromagnetic Radiation. Sounds interesting, so come on out if you've the time.

-- PARITY BILL ACTION DELAYED --

A "sit-in" by House Democrats in late June to demand a vote on bills related to more restrictions on firearms purchases resulted in a delay in committee action on HR 1301, the Amateur Radio Parity Act, which would assure hams in antenna-restricted private housing developments the right to get on the air with an outdoor antenna.

The bill had been scheduled for a "markup" by the full House Energy and Commerce Committee on 23 June—at which time amended language agreed to by the ARRL and the Community Associations Institute (which represents homeowners' associations) was slated to be introduced—but action was delayed until July due to Speaker Paul Ryan's decision to call an early start to the House's Fourth of July recess in order to end the protest on the House floor. No specific date had been set for the rescheduled markup session.

(From "Ham Radio News," CQ, August 2016)

-- CLASSIFIED --

FOR SALE: ICOM IC-706 MK IIG 100-watt HF/VHF/UHF, CW/SSB/FM Transceiver. Excellent condition; with manuals -- \$350. Contact Don Jansen-KI4VGE 941-223-1129

-- VE SESSION VENUE CHANGE --

The 13 August TARC license exam session will be held in the Jacaranda Library Meeting Room. Turn right after entering the library door.

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the Meeting
July 13, 2016**

Vice President Gary Hagens, K6OC, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a pledge to the flag.

The following visitors were recognized and welcomed: Mel Walter, KD9EIN, and Ron Pedersen, KJ4EVJ.

MINUTES: The minutes of the June meeting were accepted upon motion and approval.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Club account had a beginning balance in June of \$6,329.85. Receipts totaled \$18.00. Expenses were \$836.78. The ending balance was \$5,511.07. A motion was made to accept the report. It was seconded and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SUNSHINE: Nothing discussed.

VE TESTING: A report from Jack Sproat, W4JS, stated that there were seven candidates and five VEs on hand for the July 9th session at the Jacaranda Library. All candidates were successful with one Amateur Extra, one General and five Technician Licenses being earned.

LIAISON TO QCWA: A report from Jack Sproat, W4JS, stated that there were 13 members and spouses, family and friends at the July 6th lunch held at the Hibachi Grill buffet, Bird Bay Plaza in North Venice.

MEMBERSHIP: The number of TARC members by category is: Regular 51, Student 7, Life 4, complementary 1, for a total of 63.

OLD BUSINESS: Secretary Jim Shortill, KJ4NDO, invited the club members to participate in the Disaster Amateur Radio Network (DARN) sponsored by Catholic Charities. This VHF network is a multi-county network supporting relief efforts within those counties. The net is held at 11:00 AM on the second Monday of every month. An Echolink portion of the net starts 8:00PM. The Echolink call sign is KD4ARN-L. Jim passed out the net VHF frequencies.

NEW BUSINESS: Jim Shortill proposed that we have a "Tips and Tricks" portion during the monthly meeting. As Hams, we are ingenious in solving problems. He recommended that we share our practical solutions to vexing problems with the membership. Jim volunteered to lead off by making the first presentation during the September meeting.

Vice President Hagens suggested that our members pass out copies of the Communicator to other Hams and to community organizations.

He noted that the Communicator was a good read and would encourage new membership.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM. There were ten members and two guests present.

PROGRAM: There was no program presented as our program director was on summer break.

Jin Shortill, KJ4NDO

Secretary

-- HAMVENTION® RELOCATING --

(The following e-mail notice was received from Bruce Brown-WA8IQF, Bob Marchese-K1NOK, Larry Bryan-W8LIG, and others on 29 July. Hamvention®, which is the largest hamfest in the States, had been at the HARA Arena since 1964. Of note, this hamfest was the inspiration of Frank Schwab-W8OK [SK], a snowbird TARC member.)

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) regrets to inform our many vendors, visitors and stakeholders that, unfortunately, HARA has announced the closing of their facility. We have begun execution of our contingency plan to move 2017 to a new home.

DARA and have enjoyed many successful years working together with HARA Arena and we wish the Wampler family the best.

DARA and Hamvention® have been working on a contingency plan in the event HARA would become unavailable. We have spent many hours over the last few years evaluating possible locations and have found one in the area we believe will be a great new home! Due to logistics and timing issues, we will make a formal announcement introducing our new partner. This information will be coming soon. We all believe this new venue will be a spectacular place to hold our beloved event. Please rest assured we will have the event on the same weekend and, since it will be in the region, the current accommodations and outside events already planned for Hamvention 2017 should not be affected.

We look forward to your continued support as we move to a new future with The Dayton Hamvention®.

Ron Cramer, General Chairman
Dayton Hamvention 2017

Eventually we all have to accept full and total responsibility for our actions. Everything we have done, and have not done. – Hubert Selby, Jr.

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MAJOR CURRENT/UPCOMING DX ACTIVITY & PROPAGATION HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT and/or SCHEDULED DX ACTIVITY										
COUNTRY – CALL SIGN	ACTIVITY PERIOD	BEAR-ING	HF BANDS and BEST OPENING TIMES (UTC)							
			80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
Vanuatu – YJ8RN by YJ8RN from OC-110	Now to 20 Aug	262	06-11	05-13	04-14	02-06	11-14	00-05	NO	NO
Tuvalu – T2COW by KC0W, CW only	Now to 18 Aug	267	06-12	05-13	03-14	01-14	23-02	19-05	19-21	NO
Morocco – CN2RN by F8FGU, CW & SSB	Now to 14 Aug	64	00-07	22-08	20-10	16-02	11-02	18-23	NO	NO
Belize – V31TA by W2JHP, ++, some PSK	Now to 12 Aug	211	21-15	00-24	12-06	16-02	16-03	1900	NO	NO
Crete – SW9AA by LZ5VK and LZ3FN	Now to 11 Aug	51	00-04	22-06	22-06	18-23	18-23	17-22	NO	NO
Albania – ZA/HA5OJ, ** (incl 6m)	Now to 05 Aug	48	--	22-06	22-06	18-23	16-23	NO	NO	NO
Saba & St Eustatius – PJ6Y by 6 op team	02 to 09 Aug	114	23-11	00-24	12-04	16-00	18-20	NO	NO	NO
Azores – CT8/F5IRO, CW & SSB	05 to 19 Aug	61	23-08	21-11	19-04	16-23	12-01	18-22	NO	NO
Hawaii – KH6/F4GHS on 3 islands, SSB	05 to 26 Aug	283	04-12	03-13	02-14	17-05	18-00	18-04	NO	NO
Nigeria – 5N/LW9DTR, SSB & JT65	06 to 07 Aug	84	--	--	--	18-03	--	13-03	--	NO
Aland Is – OH0/OH2IS, **, holiday style	06 to 11 Aug	31	00-04	23-08	22-05	13-21	NO	NO	NO	NO
Jamaica – 6Y6N by DK9PY, holiday style	06 to 20 Aug	150	20-14	00-24	12-05	17-22	16-03	NO	NO	NO
Cambodia – XU7AKB, XU7AKD, SSB	09 to 18 Aug	349		NO	OPEN	INGS	FORE	CAST		
Market Reef – OJ0DX by 4 op team	11 to 16 Aug	31	00-04	23-07	22-00	18-21	NO	NO	NO	NO
Tanzania – 5H1XX by UX0LL & Ut5UY	13 to 22 Aug	83	00-04	23-04	00-04	21-00	21-23	21-23	NO	NO
French Polynesia – TX2AH by DL2AH	17 to 28 Aug	243	--	02-13	01-07	16-02	18-23	17-03	19-22	NO
India – AU1LH by 4 op team	18 to 21 Aug	19		NO	OPEN	INGS	FORE	CAST		
Belize – V31VP by WB0TEV, SSB & RTTY	19 to 23 Aug	211	20-15	10-07	13-05	17-00	16-01	NO	NO	NO
St Paul Is – CY9C by 12 op team (incl 6m)	19 to 28 Aug	35	23-11	10-05	13-02	13-01	NO	NO	NO	NO
Vanuatu – YJ??? By KC0W, CW only	20 to 21 Aug	262	06-12	05-13	04-14	01-05	00-02	23-02	NO	NO
Corsica – TK/MW1LCR, ++, maybe RTTY	21 Aug – 04 Sep	51	--	21-06	20-00	15-22	15-21	NO	NO	NO
Ogasawara – JD1YBV, team op, (incl 6m)	23 to 28 Aug	317	--	10-12	11-13	12-15	0300	NO	NO	NO
Macau – XX9TYT by IK7YTT	29 Aug – 05 Sep	341		NO	OPEN	INGS	FORE	CAST		
Mongolia – JT1DBS by OK1DBS	30 Aug – 24 Sep	354		NO	OPEN	INGS	FORE	CAST		

Updated 29 July 2016 based on the 25 July 2016 *The Weekly DX*, the 27 July *QRZ DX* and, <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 --

Throughout July the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 71 to 108, with a mean value of 86.0 (vs. 107.0 for July 2015 and 137.3 for July 2014), and the A_p index was ≥ 7 on 19 days. Through 30 July, the sunspot number ranged from 0 to 73, with a mean of 32.7, due to seven spotless days.

Space weather during July was relatively quiet to disturbed with seven M-class and 61 C-class flares through the 30th. Geomagnetic disturbances peaked the A_p to 39 on the 5th, 27 on the 8th, 32 on the 12th, 27 on the 14th, 48 on the 19th, 56 on the 20th and 32 on 24 July.

-- AUGUST FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be very low to low for the first half of the period with a chance for M-class flares from 05-19 August due to the return of old Region 2567.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at normal to moderate levels for the majority of the period with high levels from 05-15 August due to recurrent CH HSS events.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to reach active to minor storm levels 03-05, 08, 10, 22-

23, 25-26 and 30-31 August due to recurrent CH HSS activity. Mostly quiet to unsettled conditions are expected for the remainder of the month.

The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 70 to 105 and average 85.2 during August.

(From NOAA *Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 25 July 2016, NOAA *27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 25 July 2016, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 25 July 2016.)

-- WHAT IS A DXER? --

It is worth realizing that, from the start, radio pioneers were DXers. Not content to just transmit/receive signals at some 2 km distance, Guglielmo Marconi stretched his DX to 16 km in 1897 and 3500 km in 1901. The American Radio Relay League takes its name from the system of DX stations established to relay messages, at no cost, from coast to coast in the US. DXers, therefore have over a century of proud history going for them.

The following is taken from the remarks of Carl Smith-N4AA, publisher of the weekly QRZ DX newsletter.

For a long time the following has been at the top of Carl's web site: DX = Amateur Radio "long distance" communications

With the decline of Solar Cycle 24, some of
See **DXER**, pg. 4

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING AUGUST 2016

TARA Grid Dip Shindig			WAE DX Contest			50 MHz Fall Sprint		
06 Aug 0000Z		06 Aug 2359Z	13 Aug 0000Z		14 Aug 2359Z	13 Aug 2300Z		14 Aug 0300Z
1.8-28	50	RTTY, PSK	3.5-28	--	CW	--	50	CW, SSB
Name, 4-character grid square			RST, Serial			4-character grid square		
http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_grid_rules.html			http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/en/			http://svhs.org/2016_Fall_Sprint_Rules.pdf		
SARTG WW RTTY Contest			Russian District Award Contest			CVA DX Contest		
20 Aug 0000Z		21 Aug 1600Z	20 Aug 0800Z		21 Aug 0800Z	20 Aug 2100Z		21 Aug 2100Z
3.5-28	--	RTTY	1.8-28	--	CW, SSB	3.5-28	--	CW
RST, Serial			RS(T), Serial			RST, Category (see rules)		
http://www.sartg.com/contest/wwrules.htm			http://rdaward.org/rdac1.htm			http://www.craec.org		
Romanian DX HF Contest			Keyman's Club of Japan Contest			CVA DX Contest		
27 Aug 1200Z		28 Aug 1200Z	27 Aug 1200Z		28 Aug 1200Z	27 Aug 2100Z		28 Aug 2100Z
3.5-28	--	CW, SSB	1.8-28	50	CW	3.5-28	--	SSB
RS(T), Serial			RST, Continent Code (see rules)			RS, Category (see rules)		
http://www.yodx.ro/en/english			http://www.kcj-cw.com/contest/			http://www.craec.org		

Legend: Serial = 3-digit sequential number of contact starting with 001; SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity

From ARRL "Contest Corral" and WA7BNM Contest Calendar at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

NOTE: Only major contests are shown, i.e. state QSO parties, miscellaneous sprints, etc. are not shown. See http://www.arll.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2016/August_2016_CORRAL.pdf for the complete list of the 40 contests/sprints/QSO parties/etc. that will be held during August.

DXER, from pg.3

our higher frequency HF bands are just "not there" most of the time. So, let me ask again... What is a DXer?

Is a DXer one who is "impatiently" waiting for the next ATNO (*All Time New One*) to come on the air, scanning the Clusters searching for one?

Is a DXer one who is totally dedicated to only working those ATNO stations?

Is a DXer one who prefers to rag chew with others in some far off country?

Is a DXer one who just likes a contest style contact with others in some far off country?

Is a DXer one who is searching for some new digital mode to be able to work those far away stations?

Contests generate a lot of on-the-air activity and most of us like to get on and participate to some degree, whether a full-time or just part-time effort. If we work a "new one", all the better for our time spent. There are "contests" and there are "contests" of course. Some are popular worldwide and some are for modes or reasons beyond our interest.

So, are you a "dyed-in-the-wool" DXer or a casual DXer? In either case, contests will sure give you the opportunity to get on-the-air, work a lot of stations – DX stations – and have fun doing it. Take your pick of being either a serious or casual participant, but at least make your presence known on the air.



INDEXA

Those who support INDEXA and the NCDXF are the clubs and individuals who make the DXpeditions from rare locations possible.

-- ONE LOCAL FIELD DAY ACTIVITY --

(We received these following photos, among others, a bit too late for the July newsletter but we hope you find them of interest. It's been over a decade since the TARC participated in Field Day. Our last one was from the community park at the west end of South Venice Blvd. It rained hard that night, but the motor home was snug.)

The Sarasota County Auxiliary Communications Service, Inc. put their WC4EM club station on the air for Field Day from Twin Lakes Park in Sarasota. Having been established about 10 years ago to provide volunteer communications support for Sarasota County Emergency Management, ACS is a combined ARES and RACES organization for Sarasota County.

See **FIELD DAY**, pg. 5

FIELD DAY, from pg.4



TARC's Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO was there when the mobile Aluma tower with TA-33 tri-band beam was being cranked up to useful status. That's Jim on the left at the head of the trailer.



Here's the tower and tri-bander up and in service. A G5RV was used for 40 and 80 meters.



An INRAD triplexer allows the three radios to run all three bands simultaneously to the TA-33.



CW maestro George Wagner-K5KG, clad in his Florida Contest Group orange jersey, running up Q's with his Elecraft K3. Note the cardboard carton to shield his computer screen. (Kinda familiar, K4S alumni?)



Bill Miller-K9HXO at the K3 Phone station. Operating in category 3A, the ACS effort ran up 690 CW Q's and 818 SSB Q's for a total of 1508 QSOs. Will TARC ever again participate in Field Day? It's totally up to the membership.

-- STAR BLAZE SEZZ..... --



Be careful following the masses; oftentimes the "m" is silent. (TNX, Malcolm Berko)

August 2016

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

NOTE: If the W4AC 146.805 Repeater is 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 Letters of Interests: (N) Net Control___, (I) RFI/TVI___, (V) VE Testing___, (T) Training___, (P) Packet___, (Y) RTTY___, (D) PSK, etc.____, (O) Computers___, (X) DX___, (C) Contests___, (F) Field Day___, (Q) Publicity___, (E) Emergency Communications___, (S) Special Events___, (U) VHF/UHF___, (A) ATV/SSTV, (R) Repeater___, (L) 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, P. O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274

**TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
P. O. Box 976
NOKOMIS, FL 34274**

<p><i>The Communicator</i> is a monthly publication Of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Editor: Jack Sproat-W4JS Circulation: San Yoder-K3SY</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>2016 TARC Officers</u></p> <p>President: Andy Durette-KB1HIP V. President: Gary Hagens-K6OC Secretary: Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO Treasurer: San Yoder-K3SY Directors: Peter Boers-KV4LR Larry Bryan-W8LIG Don Jansen-KI4VGE Tom McDermitt-W3GXV</p>
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