



# 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>



-- JANUARY 2013 --

## -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

Let's make this year a year that TARC will shine enough to cause envy among the rest of our neighboring clubs. It has been a year of learning for me and I feel very humble to sit at the forefront of this fine group. My one sorrow is to never have known the Silent Keys who have departed our ranks. This has been offset in part by the new members joining our ranks. Let us never forget our loss's but in turn welcome our new members with enthusiasm.

We have survived the Mayan Doomsday, and the Political turmoil so let's look forward to a New Year of expansion. We have members needing assistance with antenna problems, equipment issues, and this is probably just the beginning. These issues give us all a chance to help each other. Let us support the club at every chance, attend our monthly meetings, and our proposed neighborhood affairs. Let us not forget our net meetings and breakfasts at Peach's. To all our members friends and families a HAPPY NEW YEAR, MAY IT BE YOUR BEST EVER.

73 to All, Fred-KJ4TNI

## -- JANUARY MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **09 January 2013** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Our guest speaker will be Jim Wise-W4PRO from Virginia Beach, Virginia who will tell us about his experiences when he operated as 7Q7PRO from Malawi during the past year.

## -- ANOTHER "HEADS UP" --

If you have any money left over from Christmas shopping, keep in mind that Treasurer Don Jansen-KI4VGE will be happy to collect your \$25 dues for 2013. See Don at our January meeting, or mail your (updated) application form and check to the address on the form. Thanks in advance for your continued support of the TARC.

*One way to learn more is not to hide your ignorance. Chinese Fortune Cookie*

## -- FCC NABS ONE --

Joaquim Barbosa-N2KBJ of Elizabeth, New Jersey must pay \$16,000 for "willfully and repeatedly violating Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by operating a radio transmitting equipment on the frequency 296.550 MHz without Commission authorization."

The FCC noted in the *Forfeiture Order* that based on the examination process involved in pursuing an amateur license, "amateur licensees are expected to have an understanding of radio operations and pertinent FCC regulations, including Part 97 of the FCC's rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. Licensed amateur operators know that they are authorized to operate only on the frequencies listed in Section 97.301 of the rules, as designated by their operator class and license. Pursuant to the Table of Allocations, the 267-322 MHz band -- the band that Barbosa was operating in -- is allocated solely for federal government use, which we continue to believe Barbosa knew (or should have known) was not authorized for non-government use."

(From *The ARRL Letter*, 13 December 2012)

## -- MOUSE TRICKS --

Double clicking highlights a word, and triple clicking highlights a paragraph. Have you ever wanted to select a column of text in a Word document without getting all the text to the left and right of it? Here's how you can: Hold down the "Alt" and left mouse button (on a Mac, option-left mouse), and drag the cursor over the section you want to select. Another nice thing about this trick is that the text you are selecting does not even need to be formatted as a column for this to work.

(TNX to Bob Avrutik-N1RA for this trick.)

*"What country can preserve its liberties, if its rulers are not warned from time to time that this people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms." Thomas Jefferson, U. S. President, Letter, 13 November 1787*

## TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### Minutes of the Meeting

12 December 2012

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and, following a flag salute, introductions were made all around. Steve Lawrence-K9ARH was welcomed as a visitor.

**MINUTES** – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 14 November meeting as published in the December issue of *The Communicator*. Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX so moved, seconded by Dil Kay-W8DIL, and passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – The Secretary reported sending a letter of appreciation to the Venice Public Library, transmitting \$54 which was retained from license exam fees during 2012.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Due to the absence of Treasurer Don Jansen-KI4VGE, the Secretary offered the Treasurer's Report for November. The starting balance was \$2499.52. Receipts were \$175.00 from membership dues and \$19.00 from the November meeting 50/50, totaling \$194.00. Expenses were \$11.10 to Birch Communications for Internet service. The ending balance is \$2682.42. San Yoder-K3SY moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Andy Durette-KB1HIP, and passed.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**SUNSHINE** – Stew Haag-W4MO reported that his son Mark and Mark's wife had visited Martin Zippe-AF4ID/DJ6OM while in Munich. Martin was very happy to see them.

**VE TESTING** – There were no candidates at our 08 December VE session. During 2012, we only examined 18 candidates, quite a decline from previous years.

**REPEATER/TECHNICAL** – Stew-W4MO reported that the power supply for the repeaters blew out and that he had replaced it, such that both repeaters are operational. Fred-KJ4TNI thanked Stew for his efforts, which was followed by a round of applause.

**PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP** – San Yoder-K3SY advised that we have 60 dues paying member and eight Life Members, for a total of 68 Club members. However, to date only nine members have paid their dues for 2013.

**NET OPERATIONS** – Jack-W4JS reported that, due to equipment failure, he can no longer serve as a net control for the 440 Net. Jack will ask Charlie Covell-W4DB to be the net control for that net.

**LIAISON TO QCWA** – There were 29 members, spouses and friends present at the 05 December luncheon of Suncoast Chapter 53 at Denny's on Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota. It was reported that Fred-KJ4TNI had joined the chapter. The program was a PP presentation of the Panama Canal Cruise of Lisa and Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB. All are welcome to join us the first Wednesday of the month around 11:15 AM.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Nothing carried over.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Election of 2013 officers. Fred turned the chair over to Andy Durette-KB1HIP, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Andy read off the candidates, all of whom are incumbents:

Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI – President  
Andy Durette-KB1HIP – Vice President  
Jack Sproat-W4JS – Secretary  
Don Jansen-KI4VGE – Treasurer  
Bob Avrutik-N1RA - Director  
Rich Greenberg-N6LRT – Director  
Conrad Owens-WA3RRB - Director  
Bob Sullenberger-K1RCS – Director  
San Yoder-K3SY – Director

Andy then asked for any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Andy then moved to close the nominations and direct the Secretary cast one vote for the candidates. The motion was unanimously approved.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** – Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX stated that since the Coast Guard Auxiliary has made their facility available to us, it would be appropriate for us to send a card expressing our appreciation. Guenther will give the mailing address to the Secretary.

Fred-KJ4TNI reminded all of our three nets, giving the schedules and frequencies, and asked for better participation by the members.

**ADJOURNMENT** – A motion to adjourn at 7:21 PM was made by Dil Kay-W8DIL, seconded by Guenther-AJ4QX, and passed. There were 18 members and one visitor present.

**PROGRAM** – Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB showed the NOVA video entitled "Lightning."

Jack Sproat – W4JS  
Secretary

*"If the government can take a man's money without his consent, there is no limit to the additional tyranny it may practice upon him; for, with his money, it can hire soldiers to stand over him, keep him in subjection, plunder him at discretion, and kill him if he resists."* – Lysander Spooner, 1852

## 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
Afghanistan – T6MH; ++ and digital	Now Active	26	<b>23-02</b>	<b>22-04</b>	<b>21-04</b>	<b>13-22</b>	13-15	1330	NO	NO
Franz Josef Land – RIIFJ	Now Active	6	<b>23-12</b>	<b>22-13</b>	<b>20-15</b>	13-00	14-23	15-18	NO	NO
South Shetland Is – RI1ANF	Now to 28 Feb	169	<b>01-08</b>	<b>00-09</b>	<b>23-09</b>	<b>21-01</b>	<b>13-23</b>	14-23	13-00	NO
Angola – D3AA	Now to 15 Feb	96	<b>22-06</b>	<b>21-07</b>	<b>20-07</b>	<b>13-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>13-21</b>	<b>14-20</b>	<b>16-18</b>
Namibia – V5/DJ2HD; ++ and RTTY	Now to 12 Jan	107	<b>22-05</b>	<b>21-06</b>	<b>20-06</b>	<b>17-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>13-21</b>	15-20	15-20
Rodrigues Is – 3B9/OH1LEG; ++, Digital	Now to 07 Jan	84	<b>23-02</b>	<b>21-03</b>	<b>20-02</b>	<b>17-23</b>	<b>13-21</b>	<b>13-20</b>	<b>15-19</b>	15-18
Seychelles – S79QT; ++, RTTY, PAK31	Now to 07 Jan	68	<b>22-03</b>	<b>21-03</b>	<b>21-00</b>	<b>16-23</b>	<b>13-20</b>	<b>14-18</b>	<b>15-17</b>	16-17
Temotu – H40FN	Now to 07 Jan	270	<b>07-13</b>	<b>05-14</b>	<b>05-16</b>	<b>14-19</b>	<b>19-23</b>	<b>19-22</b>	20-21	20-22
Vietnam – XV0VR; German Ops, CW & SSB	Now to 05 Jan	348	<b>11-12</b>	<b>11-13</b>	<b>13-14</b>	<b>14-17</b>	14-15	15-18	NO	NO
South Cook Is – E51E; ++, RTTY, some CW	Now to 05 Jan	246	<b>04-13</b>	<b>03-14</b>	<b>03-15</b>	<b>13-00</b>	<b>16-23</b>	<b>17-22</b>	<b>18-21</b>	20-21
Namibia – V5/DJ5BQ; RTTY	04 to 18 Jan	107	<b>23-05</b>	<b>21-06</b>	<b>20-04</b>	<b>18-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>13-21</b>	14-21	15-20
Senegal – 6W7SK; **	05 to 18 Jan	87	<b>22-09</b>	<b>20-09</b>	<b>17-12</b>	<b>12-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>14-21</b>	<b>15-19</b>	16-18
Kenya – 5Z4/DF3FS & DL1QW; All modes	07 to 20 Jan	76	<b>22-04</b>	<b>21-05</b>	<b>21-05</b>	<b>17-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>13-21</b>	<b>14-19</b>	15-18
Palau – T88SM, CP and HK	09 to 14 Jan	307	<b>08-13</b>	<b>07-15</b>	<b>06-15</b>	<b>14-00</b>	<b>14-00</b>	<b>21-23</b>	<b>21-23</b>	22-23
Lord Howe Is – VK9L; Japanese team op.	11 to 18 Jan	249	<b>08-13</b>	<b>06-14</b>	<b>06-15</b>	<b>13-17</b>	<b>17-00</b>	<b>20-00</b>	21-00	17-00
Vietnam – XV4LU and DDD; SSB & RTTY	12 to 16 Jan	348	<b>11-12</b>	<b>10-13</b>	<b>12-14</b>	<b>13-19</b>	14-15	14-19	15-17	NO
Fernando de Noronha – PY0F/PP1CZ; ** RY	15 to 21 Jan	115	<b>22-09</b>	<b>20-10</b>	<b>12-01</b>	<b>12-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>14-21</b>	<b>16-19</b>	15-20
Rwanda – 9X0PY; **	15 to 31 Jan	81	<b>23-05</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>21-06</b>	<b>17-00</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>13-20</b>	<b>14-19</b>	15-18
Senegal – 6W2SC; **	17 Jan to 10 Mar	87	<b>22-09</b>	<b>20-10</b>	<b>18-09</b>	<b>12-00</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>14-21</b>	<b>15-19</b>	16-19
Guinea Bissau – J5UAP; **	25 Jan to 10 Mar	90	<b>22-08</b>	<b>20-09</b>	<b>18-09</b>	<b>13-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>14-21</b>	<b>15-20</b>	15-19
Cayman Is – ZF2TA; CW and SSB	26 Jan to 02 Feb	169	<b>00-24</b>	<b>13-00</b>	<b>14-22</b>	16-21	18-19	NO	NO	NO

Updated 02 January based on 02 January QRZ DX, 31 December *The Weekly DX* and the NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page,

<http://www.ng3k.com>

**Notes:** Time in bold =h Bands 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.

### -- DECEMBER SOLAR ACTIVITY --

The Solar Flux ranged from 96 to 122, with a mean value of 108.5 (vs. 141.3 for December 2011 and 84.3 for December 2010), and the A-index was  $\geq 7$  on four days. The sunspot number ranged from 23 to 90, with a mean of 60.4. Sunspot Regions 1624 to 1642 were active, with 41 C-class flares.

### -- JANUARY FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at low levels during January with a chance of isolated M-class flares during the month.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at background levels throughout the month.

The geomagnetic field may be at predominantly quiet levels with the exception of 01-02, 13 and 28 January when recurrent coronal hole high speed streams are expected to bring unsettled conditions.

The Solar Flux should average 110.5 during January.

(From NOAA *Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 31 December 2012, NOAA *27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 31 December 2012, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 31 December 2012)

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### -- 2013 LONG RANGE FORECAST --

In his "Propagation" column in the January 2013 issue of *CQ*, Tomas Hood-NW7US offers the following forecast for 2013 propagation.

**10 and 12 Meters:** These bands will be good during the DX seasons, but will suffer during the summer, except during times of sporadic-E activity.

**15 Meters:** This band will be fair to good, seeing worldwide openings during the daylight hours of all seasons.

**17 Meters:** This band should behave much like 15, but you will find it open more often, remaining open for DX an hour or two longer than 15 meters.

**20 Meters:** This will be the main player. Expect good conditions during the daylight hours, with worldwide DX openings possible throughout the year. DX will tend to peak for a few hours after local sunrise and again during the sunset period. Look for nighttime DX during the winter.

**30 Meters:** Will be an exciting band for low-power digital signals.

**40, 60, 80 and 160 Meters:** Great worldwide DX should continue on 40 from about two hours before sunset to about two hours after sunrise. Coast-to-coast DX on 60 meters. DX on 80 and 160 should peak during early spring, late fall, and winter months. Expect somewhat stronger signals than in the last few years.

## MAJOR CONTESTS DURING JANUARY

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
070 PSKFest	0000Z 05 Jan 2400Z 05 Jan	80 – 10 Meters PSK Modes	Anyone, Anywhere	Call, RST, S/P/C
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z 05 Jan 2400Z 06 Jan	80 – 10 Meters RTTY	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, S/P/C, Serial
UK DX RTTY Contest	1200Z 12 Jan 1200Z 13 Jan	80 – 10 Meters RTTY	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
North American QSO Party	1800Z 12 Jan 0600Z 13 Jan	160 – 10 Meters CW	Stations in North America and Hawaii	Name, S/P/C
Bulgarian Open Contest	0000Z 19 Jan 0400Z 19 Jan	80 and 40 Meters CW	See <a href="http://www.lzopen.com">www.lzopen.com</a> for details	Serial & previous QSO Serial
YLISSB QSO Party	0000Z 19 Jan 2359Z 20 Jan	160 – 10 Meters SSB or CW	See <a href="http://www.ylssystem.org">www.ylssystem.org</a> for details	Call Sign, RS(T)
Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z 19 Jan 1200Z 20 Jan	160 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), Serial
North American QSO Party	1800Z 19 Jan 0600Z 20 Jan	160 – 10 Meters SSB	Stations in North America and Hawaii	Name, S/P/C
ARRL January VHF Contest	1900Z 19 Jan 0400Z 21 Jan	6 Meters and Up SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	Grid Square
CQ WW 160 Meter Contest	2200Z 25 Jan 2200Z 27 Jan	160 Meters CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, S/P/C
REF French Contest	0600Z 26 Jan 1800Z 27 Jan	80 – 10 Meters CW	Stations in France and French Possessions	RST, Serial
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z 26 Jan 1200Z 27 Jan	80 – 10 Meters RTTY	Anyone, Anywhere	Serial
UBA Contest	1300Z 26 Jan 1300Z 27 Jan	80 – 10 Meters SSB	Anyone, Anywhere	RS, Serial
Winter Field Day	1700Z 26 Jan 1700Z 27 Jan	160 Meters – VHF SSB, CW, Digital	Anyone, Anywhere; see <a href="http://www.spar-hams.org">www.spar-hams.org</a>	Call, RS(T), local temp, category

*Legend:* Serial = 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 and "membership clubs" contests are not shown. See above references for information.

### -- HOW ABOUT SOME CONTESTING? --

More of our members are getting up some form or other of HF antennas, so perhaps they will take up some interest in contesting.

What do you gain by entering contest? For one thing, they can be very helpful if you are trying to Work All States, or add a "new one" in your quest for DXCC, the most popular award in ham radio.

As you will note from the contest schedules and info in each month's issue, there are some type of contest every weekend of the months. So, why not get involved, even if you only "search and pounce" to make a few contacts. Here are some suggestions to help get you started.

**Stay Legal:** If you don't have an Amateur Extra class license, make sure that you only look for stations that are in the band segments where you can operate. If you don't already have one,

go to <http://www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations> and print out the frequency chart.

**Contest Exchange:** The "Exchange" column above is pretty straight forward regarding exchanges, but "Grid" may confuse you. This refers to the Maidenhead Grid Locator system. If you look on the "Details" page for your call sign on QRZ.com, you will find your Grid Square.

**Logging:** Be careful to keep your log book in front of you so that you don't make the error of calling a station that you already worked.

You are not required to submit a log to the contest sponsors. However, in some instances you may be asked via e-mail for a "Check Log" by those who check the logs that were submitted. If you only worked a dozen or so stations and used a paper log, you can scan your log page and send it, or you can type the exchanges into an e-mail.

So, why not try contesting? It's a lotta fun.

# January 2013

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

NOTE: If the W4AC 146.805 Repeater is inoperative, nets scheduled for activity will be held on the W4AC 444.100 MHz Repeater. 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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Editor: Jack Sproat-W4JS  
Circulation: San Yoder-K3SY

2013 TARC Officers

President: Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI  
V. President: Andy Durette-KB1HIP  
Secretary: Jack Sproat-W4JS  
Treasurer: Don Jansen-KI4VGE  
Directors: Bob Avrutik-N1RA  
Rich Greenberg-N6LRT  
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