



# 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>



-- JULY 2010 --

## -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

As this issue is being prepared, President Stew Haag-W4MO is over in Germany. His visit there was interrupted by a fall which resulted in Stew experiencing the interior of a German hospital. He is still scheduled to be back here 05 July. We wish him a safe and sound return.

## -- JULY MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **6:00 PM** on Tuesday, **06 July 2010** in the Meeting Room of the Venice Public Library, 300 South Nokomis Avenue. After the business meeting, Don Watson-K9DDO will give a power point presentation on the local use of stealth and semi-stealth antennas. Come out to learn about hiding antennas.

## -- FIELD DAY ACTIVITY --

Several TARC members were active in a one-day Field Day operation up in Sarasota. The venue was the pavilion in the new Urfer Family Park, located at Honore Ave. and Bee Ridge Rd.

While a lot of time and effort went into preparing for this activity, its primary intention was to provide HF operating experience for members of the Sarasota Military Academy ARC, the Pine View School ARC, and the Suncoast Polytechnical High School. Operating time was limited to about three hours.



The antennas were installed by George Becht-N2SQ, Andrew Becht-KJ4QQE and Jon Hamlet-

W4ZW. The GOTA station antenna was a Carolina Windom at 40 feet. The 20 meter station's antenna was a Hamstick dipole on a painter pole using a Buddipole VersaTee and feed line at 23 feet. The 15-meter antenna was a Buddipole vertical at 16 feet. The 6-meter antenna was a Hamstick dipole using the Buddipole VersaTee and feed line on a Buddipole mast at 16 feet.

The GOTA station, the 6-meter station, and a HF station used the W4SMA (Sarasota Military Academy ARS) call sign. The 15-meter station was activated by W4PVC (Pine View School ARC).

All stations were powered with marine batteries courtesy of the **BatteriesPlus+** store on Bee Ridge Rd.

The all-important food was supplied by Alice Becht-W1AMB.



County Commissioner Nora Paterson came by the FD site, and George-N2SQ provides some explanation to her while two SMA hams have a go at the GOTA station.

In addition, West Central Florida Section Manager Dee Turner-N4GD and Assistant Section Manager Neil Lauritsen-W4NHL paid a visit to the site.

SSN-TV showed up with a video crew who captured some of the activity and a young lady who interviewed both George and Jon to learn more about ham radio and Field Day.

See **FIELD DAY**, pg. 5

**TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**01 June 2010**

President Stew Haag-W4MO called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM and, following a flag salute, introductions were made all around. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB from Sarasota was welcomed as a visitor.

**MINUTES** – Secretary Jack Sproat-W4JS asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the 04 May 2010 meeting as published in the June 2010 issue of *The Communicator*. Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX so moved, seconded by Jon Hamlet-W4ZW, and passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – Nothing received or sent during the past month.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Due to the absence of Treasurer Don Jansen-KI4VGE, Jack-W4JS gave this report. The starting balance was \$1705.81. Receipts were \$17.00 from the May 50/50 and \$8.00 for a call sign badge, totaling \$25.00. Expenses were \$14.34 for DayStar Internet service and \$617.50 for work at the repeater tower, totaling \$631.84. The 01 June 2010 ending balance is \$1098.97. Diane Gregory-KI4GRF moved to approve the report, seconded by Jon Hamlet-W4ZW, and passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**SUNSHINE** – Nothing reported.

**VE TESTING** – Jack-W4JS stated that our next regularly scheduled VE session will be at 10 AM on 12 June. To date there have been no inquiries.

**REPEATER/TECHNICAL** – The 146 and 444 MHz antennas have been relocated on the tower and both repeaters are working as intended. The EchoLink mode has not be reactivated to date. The remote Kenwood radio is operational from the repeater site and the remote Flex 3000 is in operation from the W4JS QTH.

**CLUB PROPERTY** – No inventory changes.

**PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP** – San Yoder-K3SY reported that we now have 96 members, including nine Life Members, 26 First-Year Free members, and 61 paid-up members.

**NET OPERATIONS** – Net Manager Bob Murphy-WA1UHG was not present. Jack-W4JS reported that turnout for the nets has been very low, with no more than four or five members participating.

**LIAISON TO EARS** – No one present for a report.

**LIAISON TO QCWA** – Jack-W4JS stated that Suncoast Chapter 53's 05 May luncheon/meeting attracted 25 members/spouses/

friends. Tomorrow, 02 June, the Chapter starts its summer season with lunch at the Panda Pavilion here in Venice, starting around 11:15 AM. Everyone is welcome.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Jon Hamlet-W4ZW reported that he presented two national scholarships at the Pine View School's Awards Program. His presentation inspired some parents to question him about their children acquiring amateur radio licenses such that they could compete in next year's program.

Jon plans to participate in setting up a Field Day operation for the members of the ham radio clubs at Pine View School and Sarasota Military Academy. Details to follow, if TARC members want to participate.

Bylaws Amendment – Stew provided a background review: 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.”

Stew called for a vote of approval by show of hands, which was unanimous. The revised signature page of the Bylaws was then signed by the President, Vice President, Secretary and one Director.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** – Ron Pedersen-KJ4EVJ asked how he could obtain assistance from the County in approval of homeowners' association regulations. Several members offered their assistance.

**ADJOURNMENT** – A motion to adjourn at 6:25 PM was made and passed. There were 23 members and one visitor present.

**PROGRAM** – Due to technical difficulties, the program by Stew Haag-W4MO on how to use the remote HF radios was offered in an abbreviated format.

Jack Sproat-W4JS  
Secretary

*The object and practice of liberty lies in the limitation of government power.* General Douglas MacArthur (1880 – 1964)

## 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	<b>00-06</b>	<b>06-08</b>	--	<b>10-12</b>	10-11	NO	NO	NO
St Vincent – J88CF; Kumar, native resident	Very Active!	121	<b>22-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>11-06</b>	22-00	17-03	NO	NO	NO
Mayotte – FH8ND; by F1OKV	Now to 23 Aug	85	<b>00-04</b>	<b>23-05</b>	<b>04-05</b>	05-06	0500	NO	NO	NO
St Vincent – J8/W9DR and J8/W8IF	Now to 05 July	121	<b>22-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>11-06</b>	22-00	17-03	NO	NO	NO
Jersey – GJ??? By Dutch team	Now to 05 July	46	<b>00-06</b>	<b>22-09</b>	<b>21-09</b>	18-00	17-00	NO	NO	NO
Mongolia – JT1ZW and JT1YT	Now to 4 July	354	NO	NO	NO	<b>02-06</b>	02-06	NO	NO	NO
Market Reef – OJ0VR	Now to 03 July	31	<b>01-04</b>	<b>23-07</b>	<b>23-07</b>	19-21	NO	NO	NO	NO
Svalbard Is – JW/JA8BMK; SSB/CW/RTTY	01 to 11 July	13	--	--	--	15-22	15-22	NO	NO	NO
Cape Verde Is – D44TOI	01 to 13 July	89	<b>23-08</b>	<b>21-11</b>	<b>20-11</b>	<b>13-04</b>	17-00	16-00	NO	NO
Corsica – TK0WT & TK10B	04 to 24 July	51	<b>00-05</b>	<b>22-08</b>	<b>22-07</b>	<b>16-00</b>	10-00	NO	NO	NO
St Pierre & Miquelon – FP/K9OT & KB9LIE	05 to 14 July	39	<b>23-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>00-24</b>	08-05	NO	NO	NO	NO
Djibouti – J28RO; SSB/CW/Digital	06 to 30 July	61	<b>00-03</b>	<b>23-04</b>	<b>23-04</b>	<b>19-21</b>	17-18	17-18	NO	NO
Fiji - 3D2???; Japanese team	13 to 14 July	258	<b>05-12</b>	<b>03-13</b>	<b>04-13</b>	<b>23-07</b>	23-03	00-05	NO	NO
Wallis & Futuna – FW5M; SSB/CW/RTTY	14 to 24 July	260	<b>05-12</b>	<b>04-13</b>	<b>03-13</b>	<b>19-07</b>	<b>21-05</b>	22-04	19-05	NO
Togo – 5V7DX	15 to 30 July	87	--	<b>22-08</b>	<b>21-07</b>	<b>11-03</b>	18-00	18-00	22-23	NO
Burkina Faso – XT2EME; Swiss team	14 to 24 July	83	<b>00-06</b>	<b>22-08</b>	<b>22-03</b>	<b>12-02</b>	16-01	16-01	NO	NO
Senegal – 6V7W; Spanish team	21 to 31 July	87	<b>23-07</b>	<b>21-10</b>	<b>20-10</b>	<b>11-04</b>	17-23	13-00	21-23	NO
Ogasawara – JD1/JIILET; SSB/CW/RTTY	24 to 30 July	317	<b>09-11</b>	<b>08-12</b>	<b>08-13</b>	<b>02-04</b>	04-05	02-04	NO	NO

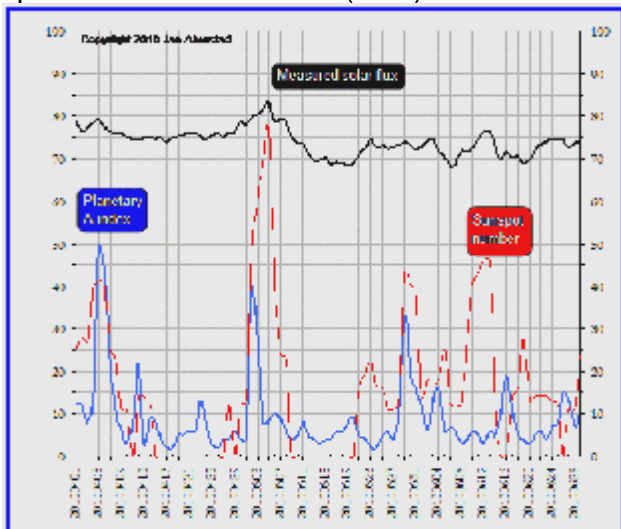
Updated 30 June 2010, based on 30 June 2010 QRZ DX, 29 June 2010 *The Weekly DX* and <http://www.ng3k.com>

**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.

### -- JUNE SOLAR ACTIVITY --

During June the Solar Flux ranged from 68 to 76, with a mean value of 72.6 (vs. 68.6 for June 2009 and 65.9 for June 2008). The A-index was  $\geq 7$  on nine days. The average daily SSN was 18, with the Sun being spotless on three days.

Sunspot Regions 1076 thru 1085 formed during June. Three C-class and two M-class solar flares occurred 12-14 June, however geomagnetic field disturbances during June were generally due to coronal mass ejections causing high speed solar wind streams (HSS).



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

### -- JULY FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at very low levels.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit. The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to reach high levels during 01-10, 14-19 and 26 July. July's solar flux should average 73.4.

The geomagnetic field should be unsettled to active 01 July due to recurrent HSS, decreasing to quiet to unsettled 02-04 July. Quiet levels should prevail 05-11 July, increasing to quiet to unsettled levels 12-14 July due to HSS. Activity should decrease to quiet levels 15-22 July, but increase to unsettled to active levels 23-24 July due to HSS. Activity should decrease to quiet to unsettled levels 25-28 July and to quiet levels 29-31 July.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 29 June 2010, NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table, 29 June 2010, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 29 June 2010)

### -- FUTURE DXPEDITIONS OF NOTE --

A British team will activate S79K from the Seychelles 26 October-02 November 2010.

A multinational team will operate DX0DX from Thitu Is. in the Spratly Islands 06-24 January 2011.

The "Microlite Penguins DXpedition" team will put VP8ORK on from the South Orkney Islands 27 January-08 February 2011.

A Polish Dxpediton and mountain climbing team plan to operate from the semi-rare Jan Mayen Islands (JX) 04-14 July 2011.

"Plan Ahead!!"

## JUNE CONTESTS & ACTIVITIES

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
Canada Day Contest	0000Z 01 July 2359Z 01 July	160 – 2 Meters SSB and CW	Canadian Stations	R/S/(T), Serial Number
Venezuelan Independence Day Contest	0000Z 03 July 2400Z 04 July	160 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/(T), Serial Number
DL (German) DX RTTY Contest	1100Z 03 July 1059Z 04 July	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/T, Serial Number
FISTS Summer Sprint	0000Z 10 July 0400Z 10 July	80 – 10 Meters CW Only	Members of FISTS	R/S/T, QTH, Name, Power
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z 10 July 1200Z 11 July	160 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/(T), ITU Zone (8, locally)
Straight Key Weekend Sprint	0000Z 11 July 2359Z 11 July	160 – 6 Meters CW Only	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/T, QTH, Name
Digital Modes Club RTTY Contest	1200Z 17 July 1200Z 18 July	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S/T, Serial Number
North American RTTY QSO Party	1800Z 17 July 0600Z 18 July	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	Name and QTH
CQ World Wide VHF Contest	1800Z 17 July 2100Z 18 July	6 and 2 Meters SSB, CW, Digital	Anyone, Anywhere	4-digit Grid Square
Islands On The Air (IOTA) Contest	1200Z 24 July 1200Z 25 July	80 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Stations Operating from Islands	R/S/(T), Serial Number

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

### -- DARN NEEDS VOLUNTEERS --

The Tamiami ARC has had a close working relationship with the Catholic Charities Disaster Amateur Radio Network (DARN) almost since the inception of the latter at the local level. The volunteer group formed after the devastating hurricanes of 2003 and 2004. DARN supplied the emergency generator at our repeater site, and recently contributed money for repeater maintenance. Both the *Florida Catholic* newsletter and the Venice Diocese web site have paid homage to the local efforts of the DARN, which is under the leadership of Bob Sullenberger-K1RCS. The following comes from those sources.

The DARN recently expanded to the northern part of the Diocese of Venice with a new base station installed in the Catholic Charities offices located in Sarasota. The Sarasota station has UHF/VHF/HF capabilities, such that it can "reach out" beyond the diocese if need be.

The network also has UHF/VHF radio stations located in Naples, Fort Myers, Port Charlotte, Arcadia and Venice.

Members of DARN recently held their 2010 Annual Meeting at San Antonio Parish in Port Charlotte, where they celebrated the network's accomplishments of opening six base radio stations in six years.



Andy Durette-KB1HIP is shown installing the new antenna at the Sarasota DARN station this past May.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the DARN should contact Bob-K1RCS via e-mail at [robert.sullenberger@hotmail.com](mailto:robert.sullenberger@hotmail.com)

*The dangers of a concentration of all power in the general government of a confederacy so vast as ours are too obvious to be disregarded.*  
Franklin Pierce, Inaugural Address, 04 Mar 1853

## FIELD DAY, from pg. 1



Carlos Velazquez-KJ4QME works the 6-meter station with Jack-W4JS providing some logging assistance. Some 50 stations were worked on 6 meters during the first hour of operation.



Andrew Becht-KJ4QQE works the GOTA station under the supervision of Lewis Tenser-N2LU. Note the two marine batteries powering the GOTA and 6-meter stations.



Jon Hamlet-W4ZW puts W4PVC on the air with Michael Manders-KJ4IFK doing the computer logging. They ran up 180 QSOs during the short time the station was active.

An attempt was made to work Satellite AO-57, however there was only a 4-minute window and stations in the Carolinas had a better shot at the pass.

Operations shut down in the late afternoon, just before a local thunderstorm hit the area. The wind-driven rain rather well soaked everyone, but that's part of what Field Day--especially during a Florida summer--is all about.

### -- 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)

### -- MORE SCARE TACTICS --

Kurt N. Sterba has some good comments in his "Aerials" column in the July issue of *WorldRadio Online* with regard the scare tactics being offered by hawkers of "cures" for a perceived problem. They claim that RF (which they like to call "EMF radiation" because the word "radiation" conjures up thoughts of nuclear bombs) causes cancer in the human body.

Some 10 years ago the FCC required that we check our houses and grounds for RF levels. San Francisco, out there in La La Land, has passed an ordinance requiring cell phone manufacturers to state how much RF their phones will generate. Meanwhile, the U.S. Department of Health has stated there is no significant association between cell phone use and health effects.

That doesn't stop quacks from hawking "cures" (for a non-problem). These include such things as powdered rock—"found only in South America—glued to a plastic strip which you affix to your cell phone. Others are more exotic—but of no value. "There's a fool born every minute."

# July 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				TARC Emergency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM <b>TARC Meet- ing @ 6 PM, Venice Library</b>	QCWA Lunch, 11:30 AM @ Panda Pavilion, TARC DX Net 8 PM, W4AC Repeater	TARC Emer- gency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	TARC VE Session @ 10:00 AM, Venice Public Library
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	DARN Emer- gency Net @ 11 AM & 7:30 PM, Starts on W4AC re- peater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM  TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	TARC DX Net 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	TARC Emer- gency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM  TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	TARC Emer- gency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM  TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	TARC Emer- gency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:30 AM	

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  
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Editor: Jack Sproat-W4JS  
Circulation: Don Jansen-KI4VGE

2009 TARC Officers

President: Stew Haag-W4MO  
V. President: Bruce Brown-WA8IQF  
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