

THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of the TAMIAMI 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



-- JULY 2014 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

July is upon us and in composing this month's message I had a lot of assistance from Ed Clark-K8ZM, although he may not want to except any credit. He sent me an interesting item concerning a two letter word that has almost as many aspects as does Amateur Radio. The word is listed as a noun, verb, pronoun, adjective, and adverb so read and enjoy. The word is UP.

As hams, we fire UP our rigs and warm UP our amps. This is often done to build UP our collections of QSLs. We get UP early in the morning and stay UP late at night to work the bands. We need to tune UP our antennas and equipment and log UP our contacts.

At our monthly meetings why does a topic come UP and why do I always ask you to speak UP? And why are the officers UP for election and, if there is a tie, it is a toss UP? Oh and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report? Why do we open UP our VHF and UHF nets at 7:30 pm and close them UP so quickly (hint-hint-hint)? Why are the club officers always asking the members to sign UP for special events?

With so many snow birds UP north why don't the locals show UP more for breakfast? Now as I prepare to shut UP, let me ask you to show UP for the July meeting (heck, every meeting). I put UP a challenge for you all. Look UP SDR, tune UP your shack, and WAKE **UP** the TARC.

VY 73 to All de Fred-KJ4TNI

-- JULY MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **09 July 2014** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. For a program, we're going to depend on those present to offer up some articles or comments of interest. For instance, Fred-KJ4TNI invites any who have a GO Bag to bring it and display its contents. Perhaps you want to reminisce about your first QSO, or one that meant a lot to you. How did you get interested in ham radio? In other words, YOU will comprise the program. Come on out and share with us!

-- OUR MEETING PLACE --



Since only about 1/3 of our membership attends our meetings, the rest of you might like to meet like to see where we meet. This is the Couast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, located at 1200 Harbor Drive South, west of the Venice Municipal Airport.

-- EXPIRED LICENSE CREDIT -

On 09 June the FCC released a Report & Order which will grant credit for written exam elements 3 (General) and 4 (Amateur Extra) to holders of "expired licenses that required passage of those elements." However, the FCC will require former licensees—those falling outside the 2-year grace period—to pass Element 2 (Technician) in order to be relicensed.

The FCC stated that the decision to grant such credit for expired licenses is "consistent with how we treat expired pre-1987 Technician class licensees who want to reenter the Amateur Service." Pre-1987 Techs with expired licenses can get credit for Element 3 as the Technician and General class written exams in that era were identical. Further, the FCC stated current rules and procedures that apply to expired pre-1987 Technician licenses "are sufficient to verify that an individual is a former licensee under our new rules."

In 1997, in the face of opposition, the FCC dropped a proposal that would have generally See Expired, page 2

Tamiami Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the Meeting 11 June 2014

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM with a flag pledge. Tom McDermitt-W3GXV of Sarasota and Bill Lipsky were welcomed as visitors. Introductions were then made all around.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 14 May meeting as published in the June issue of *The Communicator*. Conrad Owens-WA3RRS so moved, seconded by Pat Marx-KA8MMG, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Jack-W4JS reported that via 15 May letter a TARC check for \$60 was transmitted to the Special Athlete Boosters, sponsors of the Sharks Tooth Festival. Of that amount \$26 had been received with some QSL cards for K4S, and TARC members contributed \$34 at our May meeting. On 21 May, Nancy Raney, Program Supervisor with the Special Athlete Boosters, replied with a Thank You letter which commented on the "wonderful partnership" that has developed between the TARC and the Boosters.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Dave Gill-K4JDG reported that the starting balance was \$4650.49. Receipts were \$10.00 from the May 50/50, \$50.00 from dues payments, a \$10.00 donation from Dave-K4JDG, and \$60 in donations to the Special Athlete Boosters, totaling \$130.00. Expenses were \$75.00 for purchase of 1000 new K4S QSL cards and \$60 to the Special Athlete Boosters, totaling \$135. The 31 May closing balance was \$4645.49. Bob Avrutik-N1RA moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – No reports from anyone.

VE TESTING – There have been at least six inquiries from potential candidates for our 14 June VE session.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Both repeaters are operational.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – San Yoder reported that the 02 June roster shows 54 Regular members five Life members and seven Student members, and for a total of 66 members.

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

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 16 members, spouses and friends at our 04 June lunch at the Hibachi Grill Buffet In Bird Bay Plaza. This was a change of venue for our summer

lunches due to the unexpected closure of the Panda Pavilion.

OLD BUSINESS – <u>K4S QSL Activity</u>: To date 185 QSLs have been received and all responding K4S cards with a sharks tooth have been mailed out. Six stations worked K4S three or more times and certificates were sent to all of these stations via e-mail.

Volunteer for PIO Position: While no one has yet volunteered for this position, Fred has been active. He has found the *Venice Gondolier* to be cooperative to help publicize the TARC. Considering that there are over 300 hams are in this locality, Fred is considering preparation of an attractive club brochure/invitation that could be mailed to these hams.

NEW BUSINESS – Nothing.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – San Yoder-K3SY commented that he ran into difficulty when he was using the ARRL site for renewal of his license, and asked if anyone else had similar problems.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn was made at 7:26 by Bob Avrutik-N1RA, seconded by San Yoder-K3SY, and passed. There were 17 members and two visitors present.

PROGRAM – Conrad Owens-WA3RRS offered a PP/video presentation of his "Serengeti Safari."

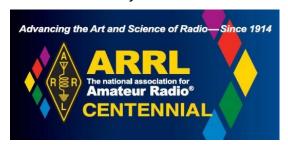
Jack Sproat-W4JS Secretary

Expired, from page 1

allowed exam credit for expired licenses. In the past, the FCC had maintained that its procedures "provide ample notification and opportunity for license renewal" and that retesting did not impose an unreasonable burden. The issue arose again in 2011 with a request from the Anchorage Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.

(From ARRL Bulletin 12 ARLB012, 11 June 2014)

While all current TARC members are licensed, if any have a friend who was formerly licensed as a General or Amateur Extra, perhaps that friend might like to reenter the hobby. This R&O goes into effect 21 July 2014.



MAJOR CURRENT/UPCOMING DX ACTIVITY & PROPAGATION HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT and/or SCHEDULED DX ACTIVITY										
COUNTRY – CALL SIGN	ACTIVITY BEAR- HF BANDS and BEST OPENING T					IG TIMI	TIMES (UTC)			
COUNTRY - CALL SIGN	PERIOD	ING	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
Svalbard – JW/UA3IPL; all modes	Now to 28 Aug	13	NO	01-08	00-07	19-14	16-02	10-05	1430	NO
Minami Torishima – JD1/JG8NQJ; **	Now to 19 Aug	308	08-11	07-12	07-12	03-16	11-06	19-05	09-07	02-03
Dodecanese – SV5/OK6DJ; holiday style	01 to 07 July	49	00-04	23-05	22-06	17-11	10-04	00-24	09-04	NO
Laos – XW6OU; by AG6OU, ++	01 July to ???	353				09-14				
Corsica – TK/F1MDT; Digital modes	01 to 13 July	51		22-07	22-08	00-24	16-03	13-02	07-05	1000
Samoa – 5W0ML; by RM2A	03 to 07 July	258	05-12	03-13	03-13	17-14	17-13	18-07	18-06	00-05
St Pierre & Miquelon – FP/KV1J; all modes	05 to 15 July	39	23-10	00-24	00-24	10-04	12-14	NO	NO	NO
Corsica – TK14CC; by F8BBL, **	05 to 19 July	51	00-05	22-07	22-08	00-24	16-03	13-02	07-05	1000
Jersey – GJ/WJ2O/m	08 to 11 July	46	00-06	22-08	22-09	00-24	11-02	00-24	09-01	NO
Fiji – 3D2ML; by RM2A, OC-156 & OC-016	08 to 13 July	258	05-12	04-13	04-13	00-14	19-13	18-07	19-06	19-05
South Cook Is – E51QBV; by K2QBV, hol stl	08 to 21 July	246	04-12	02-13	02-13	17-12	17-07	17-04	23-05	18-06
South Cook Is – E51AND; SSB & slow CW	10 to 18 July	246	04-12	02-13	02-13	17-12	17-07	17-04	23-05	18-06
Guernsey – GU/WJ2O/m; QRV in IARU 'test	12 to 13 July	46	00-06	22-08	22-09	00-24	13-01	07-02	16-00	NO
St Pierre & Miquelon – FP/OE5OHO ** ho st	16 to 22 July	39		00-24	00-24	13-02	NO	NO	NO	NO
Aland Is – OH0/IW5ELA; ** holiday style	19 to 26 July	31	01-04	23-08	22-08	13-02	13-23	10-00	NO	NO
Tanzania – 5H1NE; by IW2NEF, ++	22 July – 06 Aug	83	00-04	23-05	23-05	19-06	13-00	14-00	09-00	14-00
Greenland – OX/DB5MH; QRP, spare time	25 to 30 July	13	01-08	00-10	22-12	22-07	13-03	09-06	16-18	NO
Palau – T88DF; by JH2DFJ, all modes	27 to 31 July	306	09-11	08-12	08-12	05-16	20-06	21-05	21-23	21-23
Cocos Keeling – VK9EC; JA team, all modes	26 July – 02 Aug	3	NO	NO	NO	12-13	13-20	17-20	12-20	NO
Timor Leste – 4W/NB3MM; ++, some digital	31 July – 05 Aug	300			09-12	05-16	02-18	22-05	22-01	

Updated 25 June based on the 25 June QRZ 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.

-- JUNE SOLAR ACTIVITY --

The Solar Flux ranged from 93 to 175, with a mean value of 122.2 (vs. 110.2 for June 2013 and 120.6 for June 2012), and the A_p index was \geq 7 on 14 days. The sunspot number through 29 June ranged from 37 to 276, with a mean of 107.2. Three X-class, 15 M-class and 148 C-class flares occurred through 29 June.

Quiet conditions were generally prevalent other than some disturbed conditions 06-08, 17-20 and 27-29 June.

-- JULY FORECAST -

Solar activity is expected to be low with a chance for M-class flare activity throughout the month due to Regions 2104, 2106 and 2107, and the return of old Region 2087.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be normal to moderate through the month of Jull.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be predominantly quiet throughout July with the exceptions of unsettled conditions on 02-03, 11, and 14-14 July due to anticipated effects from a recurrent coronal hole high speed solar wind stream.

The Solar Flux should range from 90 to 165, and average 128.7 during July.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 30 June 2014, NOAA 27-day Space

Weather Outlook Table, 30 June 2014, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 30 June 2014.)

-- WHERE'S THE DX? --

In the July/August issue of *The DX* Magazine, editor/publisher Carl Smith-N4AA ponders on the sparse offerings of anything other than "plain vanilla" DX. Yes, there has been activity from some of the entities in the top 100 Most Wanted here on the east coast such as Bahrain, Hong Kong, Vatican City, Djibouti, Taiwan, Qatar, Malawi, East Malaysia, etc. (all near the bottom of the Most Wanted) but there's a distinct void in the semi-rare entities.

There's not nearly as many operators heading out to DX spots as in the past. The QSN page (of better than usual DX worked) in Carl's weekly *QRZ DX* often comes up shy with reports. The worldwide contests have not drawn large numbers of "exotic" operations as in previous years. Few DXers are even going to the easily accessible Caribbean islands.

Carl ponders possible reasons such as poor propagation due to few sunspots, shortage of money and time, lack of incentive, etc. Like the rest of us, he has no answers.

The past week did yield some good DX into Indonesia and Thailand, however, good antennas, high power, and proficiency in SSB, CW and RTTY were needed for those QSOs.

So, work what you can and hope for better days.

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING JULY

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
Ten-Ten Spirit of 76 Contest	0001Z 30 June 2400Z 06 July	10 Meters Only All Modes	Members of 10-10 International	Calls, name, "0", state
RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z 01 July 2359Z 01 July	160 – 2 Meters CW & SSB	Canadian Stations	RS(T), Serial
Venezuelan Inde- pendence Day	0000Z 05 July 2359Z 06 July	160 – 10 Meters CW, SSB, PSK	Anyone, Anywhere	Serial
DL-DX RTTY Contest	1100Z 05 July 1059Z 06 July	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z 05 July 1400Z 06 July	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z 12 July 1200Z 13 July	160 – 10 Meters CW & SSB	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), ITU Zone (8)
DMC RTTY Contest	1200Z 19 July 1200Z 20 July	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
North American QSO Party - RTTY	1800Z 19 July 0559Z 20 July	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	NA countries, KL7, KH6, and DXCC entities	Name, S/P/C
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	1800Z 19 July 2100Z 20 July	6 & 2 Meters CW, SSB, Digital	Anyone, Anywhere	4-character Grid Square
RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z 26 July 1200Z 27 July	80 – 10 Meters CW & SSB	Stations on IOTA designated islands	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.

-- RANDOM THOUGHTS --

The current issue of *Shriner Magazine* has an article entitled "Clubs and Units are Central to the Fraternity." This comment can also be applied to ham radio. If there were no radio clubs it is unlikely that ham radio would long survive with just a conglomeration of freelance individuals in the hobby. Rather, clubs provide a sense of companionship and a feeling of being a part of this hobby.

Like the Shriners, the demographics and interests of those in ham radio do change with time. As such, the radio clubs need to evolve to meet the interests of all members. Some newer members of the Shrine with similar interests have indicated they may prefer to get together informally to share their common interest.

The TARC membership applications list a number of common interests that applicants can check off or add their own. It was based on review of such applications that we initiated a DX Net several years ago. While it started off with decent participation, activity declined and that net ultimately closed down.

Participation in TARC breakfasts offers a sounding board for discussions on a myriad of subjects—and ham radio is only a small part of the discussions. We have two nets every week, but there's no agenda or any topics offered for discussion during those nets. Perhaps that is why net participation is so abysmal. Would we have better net participation if the members knew which specific topics would be offered for discussion during each net?

Think about it.



Just what we need for parking at Peach's.

-- BILL TO EXTEND PRB-1 COVERAGE --

A bill with bipartisan support has been introduced in the US House of Representatives that calls on the FCC to apply the "reasonable accommodation" three-part test of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy to private land-use restrictions. HR.4969, the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014" was introduced on June 25 at the request of the ARRL, which worked with House staffers to draft the proposed legislation. The bill's sponsor is Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL). It has initial co-sponsorship from Rep Joe Courtney (D-CT). If the measure passes the 113th Congress, it would require the FCC, within 120 days of the Bill's passage, to amend the Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply PRB-1 coverage to include homeowners' association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as "covenants, conditions, and restrictions" (CC&Rs). Presently, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances.

"There is a strong federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio stations established at the residences of licensees," the bill states. "Such stations have been shown to be frequently and increasingly precluded by unreasonable private landuse restrictions, including restrictive covenants."

The 11-page PRB-1 FCC Memorandum Opinion and Order is codified at Part 97.15(b) in the FCC Amateur Service rules, giving the regulation the same effect as a federal statute. In short, PRB-1

states that local governments cannot preclude Amateur Radio communications; they must "reasonably accommodate" amateur operations, and the state and local regulations must be the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish a legitimate governmental interest. Subject to those guidelines, municipalities may still establish regulations with respect to height, safety, and aesthetic concerns.

For 28 years, FCC regulations have "prohibited the application to Amateur Radio stations of state and local regulations that preclude or fail to reasonably accommodate Amateur Service communications," the bill points out, "or that do not constitute the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish a legitimate state or local purpose." Since PRB-1 was enacted, the FCC has said several times that it would prefer to have some guidance from Congress before extending the policy to private land-use regulations.

HR.4969 has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), chairs that panel's Communications and Technology Subcommittee, which will consider the measure.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, is a principal advocate for the current legislative initiative to gain PRB-1 recognition for CC&Rs. Lisenco said the most urgent task now is to get additional cosponsors to sign onto HR.4969.

(From ARRL Bulletin 15 ARLB015, 28 June 2014)

Certainly, those hams affected by HOA rules and regulations which prohibit outside antennas would welcome such an extension of PRB-1. However, what is the constitutional basis for the federal government to meddle into contracts, e.g. HOA agreements, between private citizens? Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution enumerates the powers of the Congress, and nowhere in that section is there even a hint of such a The commerce clause has been power. used as a crutch for numerous questionable government laws, such as the Affordable Care Act, but no interstate commerce or goods/services are involved in PBR-1.

-- THE K9YA TELEGRAPH --

The *K9YA Telegraph* is a free, monthly, 8-page ham radio magazine published by the Robert F. Heytow Memorial Radio Club and read by hams in more than 100 countries.

The K9YA Telegraph contains the stories and features written by the subscribers and delivered via e-mail as a full-color PDF file. The July issue features an article on the "U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition" of 1939-1941. If you've a general interest in ham radio, take a look at http://www.k9ya.org/k9ya_telegraph1.htm to get on the subscriber list.

July 2014

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

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, T	raining, Packet, RTTY,			
Computers, DXing	, Contests, Field Day	, Publicity, Emergency Comr	nunications, Special Events,			
VHF/UHF, SSTV_	_, ATV, Repeater, Ech	oLink, Other (specify)				
C	e pay \$15.00 for remainder of calendar		Iembership @ \$5.00/year (New Regulator grants membership through remainder of year			

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

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The Communicator is a monthly publication Of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Jack Sproat-W4JS Circulation: San Yoder-K3SY

2013 TARC Officers

Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI President: V. President: Andy Durette-KB1HIP Secretary: Jack Sproat-W4JS Treasurer: Dave Gill-K4JDG Directors: Bob Avrutik-N1RA

> Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO Conrad Owens-WA3RRS

San Yoder-K3SY