



# 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://tamamiarc.org>



-- JULY 2015 --

## -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

July is the period in each year when we celebrate our country's original 13 colonies Declaration of Independence from England. At a recent Tuesday breakfast, in addition to the weekly display of DX QSL's, new DX awards/certificates and new mobile apps, the conversation at the DX end of the table landed on a talk about concealed carry permits (six of the group having current ones). This woke up this old head to a fact that it was due to our armed forces that we still had that right to bear arms.

It appears, that said "right" is in jeopardy within our country. Now I am not jumping on a political rage (it seems as though we have enough politicians running some sort of rage this year) but I would like to remind us all, that many died to protect ALL our rights. We tend to forget most of this line of thought until the stuff hits the fan and we need the military once again.

My goal here is that there are many Veterans today that need our support, what with a good number having given up physical body parts and their mental stability.

Please remember our veterans, their families and OUR nation this Fourth of July. If you don't support our Flag in every manner then go find another.

VY 73 de Fred-KJ4TNI

## -- JULY MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **08 July 2015** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. The program will be a showing of the 2014 FT5ZM-Amsterdam Island DXpedition, which was Awarded DXpedition of the Year 2013-2014. Amsterdam Island is a French possession far from anywhere at longitude 77.5 east, latitude 38.7 south out in the middle of the Indian Ocean. Prior to this operation Amsterdam ranked #7 Most Wanted in the world, but it's now down to #54 in the ClubLog Most Wanted list.

## -- GREAT COVER GUYS! --



San Yoder-K3SY and Steve Lawrence-K9ARH were featured on the cover of the June issue of CQ magazine. San and Steve were operating SE station K4S from the Sharks Tooth Festival when CQ's photographer Larry Mulvehill-WB2ZPI caught them in action. This is the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year for CQ magazine.

## -- NEW GENERAL EXAMS NOW IN EFFECT --

Effective 01 July 2015, the new Element 3 written exams are in effect. Anyone wishing to go for the General Class license will have to make sure that they are using the correct study material. The new questions are available on line via several sites: <http://aa9pw.com/radio/>, <http://www.eham.net/exams/> and, to round it out, <http://www.qrz.com/ht/>.

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club  
Minutes of the Meeting  
10 June 2015**

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a flag pledge. Introductions were then made all around with Jim Wedin (KJ4QMJ), Gene Bates (KE0DD) and Gary Riedel (KJ4KHM) being welcomed as visitors.

**MINUTES** – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 13 May 2015 meeting as published in the June 2015 issue of *The Communicator*. Glenn Hyde-N4MXQ so moved, seconded by Gary Hagens-K6OC, and passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – A \$100 check was given to the Special Athlete Boosters from TARC.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Treasurer San Yoder-K3SY reported that the starting balance was \$5,137.07. Receipts were \$13 from the May 50/50, \$75 for PC sales, \$11 for K4S donations and \$89 for TARC donations for a total of \$188. For expenses, there was a \$100 donation to the Special Athlete Boosters. We had a closing balance of \$5,225.07. Gary Hagens-K6OC moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Don Jansen-KI4VGE, and passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**SUNSHINE** – Nothing reported.

**VE TESTING** – 1 potential candidate for the 13 June VE session.

**REPEATER/TECHNICAL** – Both the 146.805 and 444.100 machines are operating satisfactorily.

**PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP** – San Yoder-K3SY reported that we have 51 regular members, 8 student members, 1 honorary member, and 4 life members for a total of 64 members.

**NET OPERATIONS** – Fred reminded all of our 440 and 2-meter nets. He felt they were a little lite.

**LIAISON TO QCWA** – There were 18 members and spouses at the 03 June lunch at the Hibachi Grill Buffet in Venice.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX was not able to get an answer on the new lock for the Coast Guard Auxiliary and will check for next month.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Don Jansen-KI4VGE found a possible site for our Christmas Party, Left Coast Seafood. Favorable responses came from the floor. We will send email to all members to get their view on it. Would most likely be Saturday December 12 around 3-4 PM.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** – Jim Wedin (KJ4QMJ) from the Sarasota CERT group had a 2 meter rig that he felt was not working. He needs some guidance on who could do that. Some suggestions were made and his email address was taken for further contact.

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 7:30 PM, a motion to adjourn was made by Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX, seconded by Gary Hagens-K6OC, and passed. There were 15 members and 3 visitors present.

**PROGRAM** – Tom McDermitt-W3GXV did a presentation on Graphene.

Dave Gill-K4JDG  
Secretary

**--FCC SCALES BACK OFFICE CLOSURES --**

Leaders of the US House Energy and Commerce Committee have reached agreement with FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler to amend the Commission's plans--announced in March--to close a number of FCC field offices. Under the revised plan, the FCC will keep 15 of its 24 field offices open. According to a Committee media release, the plan would "ensure better rapid response capabilities for the West, provide a mechanism for escalating interference complaints, improve enforcement of the FCC's rules against pirate radio operators, and prevent the Commission from transferring field office jobs to FCC Headquarters." The FCC had been under pressure from lawmakers and others to step back from its plan to shutter the field offices.

(From *The ARRL Letter*, 18 June 2015)

**-- A NONEVENT EVENT --**

Florida Governor Rick Scott was one of nine governors who proclaimed 21-27 June as Amateur Radio Week in his state. (*Anyone spot this in the newspapers?*) Scott cited Amateur Radio as a "critical communication link in the event of a disaster," noting the services that Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers provide in Florida's three ARRL sections. Scott also expressed appreciation for SKYWARN volunteers; many of them radio amateurs who serve as weather spotters to assist the National Weather Service.

(From *The ARRL Letter*, 25 June 2015)

*Good timber does not grow with ease; the stronger the wind, the stronger the trees.*

*We were made to persist. That's how we find out who we are.*

## 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
Rep. of Congo – TN/CT1FJZ; ++	Now to 19 July	88	<b>00-05</b>	<b>23-06</b>	<b>22-07</b>	<b>20-02</b>	19-02	18-02	NO	NO
Micronesia – V63GG; by JR2GAG	Now to 05 July	293	<b>08-11</b>	<b>07-12</b>	<b>07-12</b>	<b>05-13</b>	09-15	11-12	NO	NO
Niue – E6AB; by ZL2HM, ++	Now to 04 July	252	<b>04-11</b>	<b>03-13</b>	<b>03-13</b>	<b>00-07</b>	19-04	00-04	00-05	NO
Market Reef – OJ0V; by 3 ON ops.	Now to 04 July	31	--	<b>00-06</b>	<b>23-07</b>	20-11	NO	NO	NO	NO
Palau – T88MZ; by JHOCKF, ++	01 to 03 July	306	<b>1000</b>	<b>08-12</b>	<b>08-12</b>	09-14	09-14	11-12	NO	NO
Galapagos Is – HC8/G8OFQ; spare time op	01 July – 30 Sep	196	<b>00-12</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>12-05</b>	16-02	15-01	17-02	NO
South Cook Is – E51AGY; by ZL2AGY, **	06 July – 01 Aug	246	<b>04-12</b>	<b>02-13</b>	<b>02-14</b>	<b>23-07</b>	<b>17-05</b>	18-05	18-06	20-04
Seychelles – S79OWZ; by EI6DX, holi style	07 to 18 July	68	<b>01-02</b>	<b>00-03</b>	NO	<b>23-04</b>	NO	NO	NO	NO
Svalbard – JW/G3ZAY & friends	10 to 17 July	13	--	<b>01-06</b>	<b>01-07</b>	<b>22-02</b>	21-06	0200	NO	NO
Cyprus – C4HQ; by 5B4HQ team	11 to 12 July	48	<b>00-03</b>	<b>23-04</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>20-05</b>	18-10	21-00	NO	NO
Market Reef – OJ0S; by five OH ops	11 to 18 July	31	<b>01-03</b>	<b>00-06</b>	<b>23-07</b>	<b>20-11</b>	10-23	20-00	NO	NO
St Pierre & Miquelon – FP/NY4G	15 to 21 July	39	--	<b>20-14</b>	<b>00-24</b>	16-23	11-22	NO	NO	NO
Djibouti – J20JM; by F5LCI, **, JT65	15 July – 15 Sep	61	<b>00-03</b>	<b>24-04</b>	<b>00-03</b>	22-05	22-04	00-01	NO	NO
Seychelles – S79HN; by four JA team	16 to 20 July	68	--	<b>00-03</b>	NO	<b>23-04</b>	NO	NO	NO	NO
Iceland – TF/IA0JHQ; mainly 20m	15 to 21 July	28	--	<b>23-09</b>	<b>22-10</b>	<b>13-02</b>	08-04	NO	NO	NO

Updated 29 June based on the 29 June 2015 *The Weekly DX*, the 24 June *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.

### -- JUNE SOLAR ACTIVITY --

Through 29 June the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 97 to 140, with a mean value of 124.0 (vs. 122.2 for June 2014 and 110.2 for June 2013), and the  $A_p$  index was  $\geq 7$  on 20 days. Through 28 June, the sunspot number ranged from 25 to 136, with a mean of 80.1.

Space weather during June ranged from quiet to severe storms with 12 M-class and 186 C-class flares through the 29<sup>th</sup>. Severe geomagnetic disturbances from multiple CMEs peaked the  $A_p$  at 80 on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 236 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 179 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 67 on 25 June.

### -- JULY FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at low levels, with a chance of M-class flares during July.

From 11 through 24 July there is a chance for greater than 10 MeV proton events.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at high levels 08-19 July due to recurrent CH HSS effects.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at active to minor storm levels 06-08 and 11-12 July due to recurrent CH HSS.

The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 100 to 130 and average 114.7 during July.

(From *NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 29 June 2015, *NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 29 June 2015, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 29 June 2015.)

### -- DX TO PLAN AHEAD FOR --

3C, EQUATORIAL GUINEA – 10 to 22 October if LA7GIA can obtain a license.

3Y/B, BOUVET IS. – 17 Dec to 10 Jan '16 w/12-op team as 3Y0F.

E5, NORTH COOK IS. – 27 Sep-29 Oct by N7QT on CW, SSB and RTTY.

FK, TX CHESTERFIELD IS. – 01-12 Oct w/12-op team as TX3X.

KH5, PALMYRA IS. – Jan 2016 w/12-op team.

KH9, WAKE IS. – K6W by AG6IP 04-19 Sep.

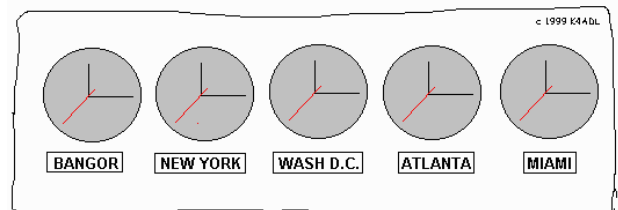
T2, TUVALU - 24 Sep-14 oct by LZ1GC and OM5ZW as T2GC.

T8, PALAU – 12-16 Sep by JP1RIW as T88KH

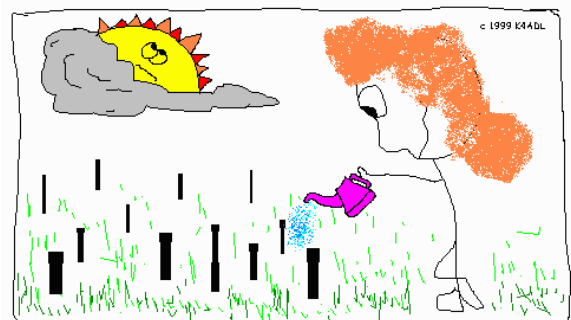
T8, PALAU – 20-22 Sep by JF2SQB as T88QB

### “WORKING DX IS A CONTACT SPORT”

#### The K4ADL Kartoon Korner



WORLD TIME CLOCKS FOR THE INTERNATIONALLY CHALLENGED



THE RUBBER DUCKIE ANTENNA FARM

## MAJOR CONTESTS DURING JULY 2015

RAC Canada Day Contest			DL-DX RTTY Contest			Marconi Memorial HF Contest		
01 July 0000Z		01 July 2359Z	04 July 1100Z		05 July 1059Z	04 July 1400Z		05 July 1400Z
1.8-28	50-144	CW, SSB	3.5-28	--	RTTY	1.8-28	--	CW
RS(T), Serial			RST, Serial			RST, Serial		
<a href="http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests">www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests</a>			<a href="http://www.drcg.de/index.php/en/dl-dx-rtty-contest">www.drcg.de/index.php/en/dl-dx-rtty-contest</a>			<a href="http://www.arifano.it/contest_marconi.html">http://www.arifano.it/contest_marconi.html</a>		
IARU HF World Championship			DMC RTTY Contest			North American QSO Party		
11 July 1200Z		12 July 1200Z	18 July 1200Z		19 July 1200Z	18 July 1800Z		19 July 0559Z
1.8-28	--	CW, SSB	3.5-28	--	RTTY	3.5-28	--	RTTY
RS(T), ITU Zone (8, locally)			RST, Serial			Name, S/P/C		
<a href="http://www.arll.org/iaru-hf-championship">http://www.arll.org/iaru-hf-championship</a>			<a href="http://digital-modes-club.org/index.php/en/contests-en">http://digital-modes-club.org/index.php/en/contests-en</a>			<a href="http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf">http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf</a>		
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest			RSGB IOTA Contest			County Hunters CW Contest		
18 July 1800Z		19 July 2100Z	25 July 1200Z		26 July 1200Z	25 July 1400Z		26 July 2359Z
--	50-144	CW, SSB, Digital	3.5-28	--	CW, SSB	3.5-28	--	CW
4-character Grid Square			RS(T), Serial			RST, State, County		
<a href="http://www.cqww-vhf.com/">http://www.cqww-vhf.com/</a>			<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/riota.shtml">http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/riota.shtml</a>			<a href="http://www.countyhunter.com/">http://www.countyhunter.com/</a>		

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: 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/Contest\\_Corral\\_1507.pdf](http://www.arll.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/Contest_Corral_1507.pdf) for the complete list of the 44 contests/sprints/QSO parties/etc. that will be held during July.

### MUTTS by PATRICK MCDONNELL, 26 JUNE 2015



### -- SIX METERS IS ACTIVE—JOIN THE FUN --



Don Watson-K9DDO has jumped on the 6-meter bandwagon as the Sporadic E season is opening up the band just about every day. Don resurrected this "old...very old" Hustler ground

plane antenna that is a 5/8 wave on 6 meters. Don advises that this antenna has performed very well, all things considered, and is miles ahead of the 6-meter element on his R-6000 vertical.

In addition to stateside stations that are heard just about daily, stations in Europe and Japan have recently been heard and worked by some local 6-meter operators. Are you still missing out on the fun of actually operating ham radio? Yes, Es is seasonal but, by golly, it can open the door to that fun. Tell the HOastazi it's a lightning rod protecting your house and the neighbors.

*People are not persuaded by what we say but, rather, by what they understand.*

*You cannot be anything if you want to be everything.*

*The joyfulness of a man prolongeth his days.*

-- ANOTHER K4S ON THE AIR --



The K4S QSL on top is used by the TARC in response to QSLs for our operation on behalf of the Venice Sharks Tooth Festival.

The lower K4S QSL commemorates the worst maritime disaster in US history. The *SS Sultana* was one of the largest sidewheel steamboats of its time, rated to carry 376 people, but overloaded with 2,427 passengers, 100 livestock and some freight when a boiler exploded 27 April 1865 near Memphis, Tennessee. Loss of life was an estimated 1,800-2,400 persons. The vast majority of passengers were just released Union POWs who boarded at Vicksburg, Mississippi and were headed up the flooded Mississippi River to northern states.

While the "official" review of the incident blamed the explosion on poorly repaired boilers, there's good probability that a coal bomb had been planted in the *Sultana's* coal bin. Dedicated Confederate agents had blown up some 60 steamboats on the Mississippi after that river was lost to federal control. The first mate of the *Sultana* survived and told a reporter that some "infernal machine" must have been put in the coal as the boat "was running very steady and so little steam on that an explosion was impossible."

So, quite diverse uses of the K4S call sign for both current and historical interest.

-- HAM TRADERS NET --

Are you familiar with the local **Ham Traders Net**? All ads are from locals and cover a variety of Amateur Radio and electronic items. Furthermore, it costs nothing to post an ad in the Net and you deal directly with the seller/buyer.

The Ham Traders Net is published verbally on Friday morning after the 8:30 AM Sunshine Net on the CARS Repeater (146.745 MHz w/136.5 PL) and Sunday evenings after the 8:00 PM PRRA Net (147.255 w/136.5 PL). The e-mail version of the Ham Traders Net is sent out to subscribers in advance of these repeater nets.

If you would like to subscribe, send an e-mail to Lloyd Smith-WA9NLA via [lloyd@itek@gmail.com](mailto:lloyd@itek@gmail.com) or call him at 941-629-9313.

-- BILL PASTERNAK-WA6ITF, SK --

A well-known voice in the Amateur Radio news media has gone silent. Bill Pasternak-WA6ITF, of Santa Clarita, California, died 11 June at age 73 following a period of ill health. Pasternak was co-founder (with Jim Hendershot-WA6VQP) of *Amateur Radio Newslines*<sup>™</sup> (formerly *The Westlink Report*) ham radio news webcast. Pasternak served as *Newslines's* managing editor and as an occasional newscaster.

Pasternak was the spark plug behind the all-volunteer *Amateur Radio Newslines* bulletin--which was relayed on repeaters around the US and elsewhere--as well as the creator and administrator of the annual Young Ham of the Year Award.

Pasternak was the only person ever chosen to receive both the Dayton Hamvention Special Achievement (1981) and Radio Amateur of the Year (1989) awards.

((From *The ARRL Letter*, 18 June 2015)

-- ARRL WV SM, SK --

ARRL West Virginia Section Manager Charles L. "Charlie" Hardy-WV8CH of Fayetteville, died 14 June, apparently as the result of an accidental electrocution while he was working on an antenna at his home. He was 50 and had been a radio amateur since 2008.

*Ed. Note: This isn't the first time hams have been electrocuted while doing antenna work. If you are among the fortunate few who can put up antennas, do be extra careful if any power lines are anywhere near where you're working.*

(From *The ARRL Letter*, 18 June 2015)

--... --

# July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 QCWA, 11:15 @ Hibatchi Grill Buffet, Bird Bay Plaza, US 41 Bypass, Venice	2 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	3 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	4
5	6	7 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	8 <b>TARC Meet- ing @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center</b>	9 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	10 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	11 <b>TARC VE Session 10 AM Venice Public Library</b>
12	13 DARN Emer- gency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE Rptr 145.430	14 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	15	16 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	17 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	18
19	20	21 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	22	23 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	24 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	25
26	27	28 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	29	30 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	31 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 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, 1419 E. MANASOTA BEACH RD, ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223-6341

**TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
1419 E. MANASOTA BEACH ROAD  
ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223-6341**

<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>2015 TARC Officers</u></p> <p>President: Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI V. President: Andy Durette-KB1HIP Secretary: Dave Gill-K4JDG Treasurer: San Yoder-K3SY Directors: Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO Conrad Owens-WA3RRS Gary Hagens-K6OC Tom McDermitt-W3GXV</p>
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