



# 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://tamiamiarc.org>



-- JULY 2016 --

## -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

Last month I discussed the repeater control issue and that we would look at the next steps. I am pleased to report that the TARC Board of Directors and the membership voted at the 8 June meeting to go ahead with a handshake agreement with Stew Haag-W4MO on the operation and control of the VHF and UHF repeaters. We believe that this will be sufficient to keep us going forward and that we would review the status of the agreement in three months.

I was sorry to receive the resignation of Glenn Hyde-N4MXQ not only from the board but also from the position as trustee of the club's W4AC license due to health reasons. So far we have one member who has volunteered to serve on the Board. Anybody interested should contact Jim, KJ4NDO, so their name can be included in the election that will take place at the 13 July TARC meeting.

We received a nice "Thank You" letter from the Special Athlete Boosters as a result of our contribution, which was mentioned in the June issue of *The Communicator*. Again thanks to all who contributed and participated in the K4S special event station at the Sharks Tooth Festival.

All the members received the following note from Jack Sproat-W4JS regarding the "18<sup>th</sup> Annual 13 Colonies Special Event" that will take place all next week starting 01 July. I am including it here to encourage our members to get on the air and have some fun: "Those of you who can actually get on the air may enjoy participating in the subject special event operation which will run from 1300 UTC on 01 July to 0400 UTC on 07 July. All HF bands other than 60 Meters will be in play. W4JS played in this event in 2015 and 2016, earning certificates and QSLs for working all colonies plus the two additional SE stations. So it is fun and a good reason to get on the air—especially on the 240th anniversary to the Declaration of Independence. Check out <http://www.13colonies.net/> for all details."

I will be going to New Hampshire for three months and I will be handing off the responsibility

of running the monthly business meetings to our vice-president Gary Hagens-K6OC. Good Luck, Gary, I know you will do a fine job!

VY 73 de Andy-KB1HIP

## -- JULY MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **13 July 2015** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. The program will be announced at the meeting.

## -- NEW EXTRA EXAMS NOW IN EFFECT --

Effective 01 July 2016, the new Element 4 written exams are in effect. Anyone wishing to go for the Amateur Extra 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/>.

## -- WHOSE JOB IS IT? --

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up the Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

## -- 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 941-493-3176

"Judge not according to the appearance."

"Conquer your fears. Otherwise, your fears will conquer you."

"You cannot make two people like each other."

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club  
Minutes of the Meeting  
June 8, 2016**

President Andy Durette, KB1HIP called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a pledge to the flag.

The following visitor was recognized and welcomed: Will Wright, KM4EAV.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Club account had a beginning balance in May of \$6,364.85. Receipts totaled \$145.00. Expenses were \$180.00. The ending balance was \$6329.85. A motion was made to accept the report. It was seconded and approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

SUNSHINE: Nothing discussed.

VE TESTING: Jack Sproat, W4JS, reported that there are ten candidates who will take the tests this Saturday at the Jacaranda Library. *(It was subsequently learned that 13 candidates attended and all were successful.)*

LIAISON TO QCWA: Jack Sproat, W4JS, reported that 18 members (spouses and friends) attended the May lunch of Suncoast Chapter 53 at the Hibachi Grill in 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: Fred Lathwood, KJ4TNI, delivered coffee and donuts to the Amateur Radio station operators who operated the TARC station during the Sharks Tooth Festival. The TARC membership voted to repay Fred for the cost of the coffee and donuts. Fred promptly donated the reimbursement to the Special Olympics.

NEW BUSINESS: The Memorandum of Understanding concerning control and supervision of Repeaters between TARC and Mr. Stewart Haag, W4MO, was put before the TARC membership by a motion to accept this MOU via a handshake agreement for three months. The vote was one against and the remainder of the members for. The motion passed and the TARC has entered into a hand shake agreement for three months.

Purchase of Projector: The club needed a projector to present programs both at the USCG center and other locations. Purchase of a new projector for \$400.00 was moved, seconded, discussed and approved.

Repeater Committee: Stew Haag, W4M0, and Guenther Henning, AJ4QX, volunteered to join

Trustee Glenn Hyde, N4MXQ, on this committee.

New Membership: TARC members suggested a number of ways to encourage new membership:

1. Letters to Home Owners Associations identifying what Amateur Radio Operators could do for the community in the event of a natural disaster.

2. Continue and improve the positive relationship with the High School Ham Club.

3. Initiate Internet outreach via: Meet Up Groups for individuals interested in Ham Radio; Prepper (prepare for disaster) groups; Hiking Groups, etc.; Use of YouTube to show the advantages of Ham Radio for the advantage of these groups.

4. Reach out to Boy Scout and Girl Scout Councils to serve as subject matter experts for Radio Merit badges and Scout Radio Jamborees.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM. There were 17 members and one guest present.

PROGRAM: Bob Miller, KJ4NLP, presented a program about the history, construction and maintenance of the Sutro communications tower in San Francisco, CA.

Jin Shortill, KJ4NDO  
Secretary

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



Unless you hear it from the horse's mouth, don't listen to a jackass.

"Don't let your limitations overshadow your talents."

Focus on rusting your intuition and you will get through it.

## 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
Samoa – 5W0COW by KC0W; CW, 160-6m	Now Active	257	<b>05-12</b>	<b>03-13</b>	<b>03-14</b>	<b>00-06</b>	19-04	19-04	NO	NO
So Cook Is - E51EXA by HB9EXA	Now Active	246	<b>04-12</b>	<b>02-13</b>	<b>02-12</b>	<b>23-05</b>	22-04	18-04	NO	NO
St Kitts & Nevis – V47JA by W5JON, HF/6m	Now to 15 July	114	<b>22-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>12-04</b>	14-05	NO	NO	NO	NO
Mauritius – 3B8/M0RCX, all modes	Now to 14 July	88	--	<b>23-04</b>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Laos – XW4XR by 3W3B, all modes	Now to 12 July	353	--	No	Open	ings	Fore	cast	NO	NO
Dominica – J79XE by WB4WXE, HF/6m	Now to 11 July	116	--	<b>00-24</b>	<b>11-06</b>	17-04	21-03	NO	NO	NO
Bahamas – C6AUX by VE3IKV, 6m/HF	Now to 08 July	113	<b>00-24</b>	<b>00-24</b>	13-04	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Jamaica – 6Y7R, 6Y5AZ; 3-op team, HF/6m	Now to 05 July	150	<b>20-15</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>12-05</b>	21-03	2300	NO	NO	NO
Seychelles – S79V; 6-op team, all modes	01 to 10 July	68	<b>01-02</b>	<b>00-03</b>	NO	22-00	2300	NO	NO	NO
Bolivia – CP1XRM by EA5RM	01 July – 03 Aug	158	<b>00-11</b>	<b>22-12</b>	<b>19-08</b>	<b>15-05</b>	21-00	16-04	22-00	NO
Crete – SV9/OK6DJ; CW	02 to 07 July	00-04	--	<b>22-06</b>	<b>22-06</b>	20-23	18-22	NO	NO	NO
Dominica – J75KG, J79WI, J79IX, **	02 to 12 July	116	<b>23-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>11-06</b>	17-04	21-03	NO	NO	NO
Curacao – PJ2/ K3NK, PJ2/W3HNNK	03 to 11 July	137	<b>23-12</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>13-04</b>	16-04	NO	NO	NO	NO
St Vincent – J8/W6NN, J8/KE1B	04 to 10 July	121	<b>23-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>10-06</b>	21-03	16-03	NO	NO	NO
Greenland – OX3LX by OZ1DJJ, spare time	05 to 08 July	13	<b>02-07</b>	<b>00-10</b>	<b>21-13</b>	14-19	NO	NO	NO	NO
Aruba – P40W by W2GD, spare time op	05 to 12 July	139	<b>22-12</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>16-04</b>	16-04	NO	NO	NO	NO
Palau – T88MZ by JH0CKF, ++	06 to 08 July	307	<b>09-11</b>	<b>08-12</b>	<b>10-12</b>	11-15	11-12	NO	NO	NO
Liechtenstein – HB0/RC3C, 5-op team	08 to 14 July	46	<b>00-05</b>	<b>22-08</b>	<b>21-06</b>	17-00	18-23	NO	NO	NO
Vanuatu – YJ0GA by ZL3GA	08 to 14 July	262	--	<b>04-13</b>	<b>04-13</b>	<b>01-05</b>	01-04	23-05	NO	NO
Greenland – OX3LX by OZ1DJJ, spare time	09 to 15 July	13	<b>02-07</b>	<b>00-10</b>	<b>21-13</b>	14-18	NO	NO	NO	NO
Barbados – 8P6NN (W6NN), 8P6MM (KE1B)	11 to 16 July	118	--	<b>00-24</b>	<b>10-06</b>	17-04	16-03	NO	NO	NO
Mongolia – JT5FW by 2 op team	11 to 19 July	354		No	Open	ings	Fore	cast	NO	NO
Cueta & Melilla – EG9LH by 2 op team	16 to 17 July	61	<b>00-06</b>	<b>22-08</b>	<b>21-09</b>	<b>16-01</b>	12-02	1100	NO	NO
Swaziland – 3DA0AY by ZS6AYE, digital	18 to 25 July	106	--	<b>23-06</b>	23-06	06-09	NO	NO	NO	NO
Mongolia – JT0YPS, JT0YTX, JT0YGC	19 to 24 July	354		No	Open	ings	Fore	cast	NO	NO

Updated 29 June 2016 based on the 27 June 2016 *The Weekly DX*, the 29 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 --

Throughout June the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 73 to 94, with a mean value of 81.9 (vs. 123.2 for June 2015 and 122.2 for June 2014), and the  $A_p$  index was  $\geq 7$  on 21 days. Through 29 June, the sunspot number ranged from 0 to 48, with a mean of 17.4 due to 11 spotless days.

Space weather during June was relatively quiet with only six C-class flares through the 29<sup>th</sup>. Geomagnetic disturbances peaked the  $A_p$  to 56 on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and to 94 on 14 June.

### -- JULY FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be very low, with a slight chance of C-class flares.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at quiet to unsettled conditions 01-05 July with isolated active conditions possible on 03 July due to a recurrent negative polarity CH HSS. Quiet conditions are expected on 06 July. Quiet to unsettled conditions are expected from 07-12 July with minor storms possible on 11 July and active periods likely on 12 July due to effects from a recurrent positive polarity CH HSS. Mostly quiet conditions are expected to return from 13-18 July with unsettled periods possible on 14-15 July. Quiet to unsettled conditions are expected on

19-21 July due to negative polarity CH HSS effects with an isolated active period likely on 19 July. Quiet conditions are expected 22-26 July with quiet to unsettled conditions 27-31 July with active periods likely 30 July.

The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 77 to 82 and average 80.0 during July.

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

### -- DX TO PLAN/LOOK FOR --

As can be noted above, DX will be hard to come by during July for several reasons. For one, Solar Cycle 24 is about finished as the Sun was spotless for 11 days during June. No openings are forecast on the higher DXing frequencies. What is the budding DXer to do?

1. Concentrate on the lower bands.
2. Consider the potential for Sporadic E openings on 6 meters.
3. Learn enough Morse Code to recognize your call sign, as CW will be readable when Phone is not.
4. Utilize RTTY, PSK or JT65 modes.
5. Be Patient. For instance, that Swaziland station will be much easier to work in December.

## MAJOR CONTESTS DURING JULY 2016

RAC Canada Day Contest			DL-DX RTTY Contest			Marconi Memorial HF Contest		
01 July 0000Z		01 July 2359Z	02 July 1100Z		03 July 1059Z	02 July 1400Z		03 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://wp.rac.ca/canada-day-contest-rules/">http://wp.rac.ca/canada-day-contest-rules/</a>			<a href="http://www.drcg.de/dldxrtty">www.drcg.de/dldxrtty</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		
09 July 1200Z		10 July 1200Z	16 July 1200Z		17 July 1200Z	16 July 1800Z		17 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			SKCC Sprint			RSGB IOTA Contest		
16 July 1800Z		17 July 2100Z	27 July 0000Z		27 July 0200Z	25 July 1200Z		26 July 1200Z
--	50-144	CW, SSB, Digital	1.8-28	--	CW	3.5-28	--	CW, SSB
4-character Grid Square			RST, SPC, Name, Power			RS(T), Serial		
<a href="http://www.cqww-vhf.com/">http://www.cqww-vhf.com/</a>						<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/iota.shtml">http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/iota.shtml</a>		

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/July%202016%20Corral.pdf> for the complete list of the 29 contests/sprints/QSO parties/etc. that will be held during July.

### MUTTS by PATRICK MCDONNELL



#### -- SUPER QRO? --

Sometime ago, your editor commented in a letter to a friend, who is a well-known DXer/contester living up in Maryland, that "a Russian I worked a few months back told me he was running 4 Kw, but that he had a 10 Kw power supply! No doubt it came from California!!"

My friend's response was quite enlightening. He has been told by a number of Russian hams, in "eyeball QSOs", that it was routine for the big contest clubs to have 10 or 15 Kw amplifiers, mostly Soviet military surplus. He also wrote me that "some sunrise (on 75 meters) when you hear JA(---) on the band, just remember my telling you that you will be listening to a 40 Kw surplus Japanese military amplifier. Lots of JA's run 5 Kw or so.....When I visited JA(+++), I wit-

nessed the operation of a 15 Kw amp with my own eyes. The lights sure dimmed when that baby was keyed!"

We used to joke a lot about "California Kilowatts," mostly out of envy over the W6's working Pacific DX which we couldn't even hear, here on the "right coast." As a whole, US hams are pretty conscientious about observing our power limits, although amps are commercially available which can exceed those limits. But 40 Kw? THAT'S ANOTHER STORY!!

#### -- FROM YOUR EDITOR --

I reckon we've been preparing this newsletter for at least 15 years, and this will be our last year. The December 2016 issue will be our final contribution to the Club. We're more than willing to break in anyone who wants the job.

# July 2016

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

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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