



# THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of the TAMAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Incorporated 30 November 1984 – Venice, Florida

Mailing Address: PO Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274

W4AC Repeaters – 444.100 MHz DMR (+) & 146.805 MHz(-) both w/100 Hz PL

Web Site – <http://tamiamiarc.org>



-- JUNE 2016 --

## -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

In the May issue of "The Communicator" I wrote about the conversion of the analog 440 repeater to a digital mode called Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) without club notification and approval. We had a good start resolving this issue after a very productive face to face meeting with Stew Haag-W4MO, who had made the conversion. When it came time to put the agreement in writing using a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) format, Stew refused to sign the MOU after having an opportunity to modify it to his satisfaction. He stated that he only wants a handshake agreement and that he will not sign any MOU for reasons I don't fully understand. This leaves open potential opportunities for misunderstanding in the future especially with new TARC officers and directors. We have not yet determined the next steps at this time.

As you recall, the K4S Special Event Station that we operated at the Sharks Tooth Festival grounds at the airport in April was a huge success with terrific signal reports from 682 US and DX contacts. We received many request for QSL cards and a shark's tooth that we make available for this event. As customary, ham operators occasionally donate money with their QSLs and we forward this money to the Special Olympics. This year Fred Lathwood, KJ4TNI donated the cost of putting the event together and club members pitched in as well to add to these donations. I am pleased to report that we donated \$180 to the Special Olympics that we personally hand delivered to the Executive Director of the Special Olympics on behalf of TARC. I want to thank Fred and the club members who contributed to this donation.

The summer season is here and things slow down a bit including attendees at our monthly meeting. We hope to continue to provide stimulating Technical/General Interest Programs during the summer months following the normal business meeting.

VY 73 de Andy Durette, KB1HIP

## -- TARC DONATION TO SAB --



Maggie Riggall, Executive Director (right), and Nancy Raney, Program Supervisor, Special Olympics, Florida, accept a check for \$180.00 from TARC President Andy Durette-KB1HIP. Since 2006, TARC has operated Special Event Station K4S from the Sharks Tooth Festival site. Some of the hams who contacted K4S sent donations with their QSL cards and Club members added donations to make up the total.

(TNX to San Yoder-K3SY for the photo and write up.)

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club  
Minutes of the Meeting  
May 11 2016**

President Andy Durette-KB1HIP called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM with a flag pledge. Introductions were then made all around with Joe Thiel-WA1VNP as a welcomed visitor.

**MINUTES** – Andy requested a motion to accept the minutes of the April 13 2016 meeting as published in the May 2016 issue of *The Communicator*. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB so moved, seconded by Gary Hagens-K6OC, and passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Treasurer San Yoder-K3SY reported that the starting balance was \$6,351.85. Receipts were \$73 including \$19 for the April 50/50, \$25 for dues, \$19 for donations and \$10 for name tags. The expenses were \$60 for a P.O. Box Rental. We had a closing balance of \$6,364.85. Gary Hagens-K6OC moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Bob Avrutik-N1RA, and passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**SUNSHINE** – The son of Jim Murdock-KG4KOT passed away. Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX fell and broke his hip. He is on the mend. It was suggested that as events are known, an email should be sent to club membership so we know in a timely basis.

**VE TESTING** – 2 potential candidates for the May 14 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 full members, 7 student members, 1 honorary member, and 4 life members for a total of 63 members.

**NET OPERATIONS** – Jack Sproat-W4JS will check with Bob Murphy-WA1UHG to see if he still wants to continue as Net Control for the VHF net. No UHF DMR Tuesday net scheduled. Looking for a net controller to start one up.

**LIAISON TO QCWA** – There were 24 members and spouses at the May 4 lunch at Denny's on Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB did a presentation on ROMEO - Technology Updates.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Election of new 2016 TARC Officers: Andy Durette-KB1HIP as President and Gary Hagens-K6OC as Vice President. A brief description of why Stew Haag-W4MO was removed as Club Trustee. DARN Net was held on Monday May 9.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Andy Durette-KB1HIP nominated Don Jansen-KI4VGE to the Board of Directors. Glenn Hyde-N4MXQ moved for acceptance of the nomination, seconded by Bob Avrutik-N1RA, and passed unanimously.

We received \$10 in donations for the Special Olympics. San Yoder-K3SY asked if anyone else would like to contribute and close to \$100 was collected.

Much discussion on the DMR 440 repeater.

\* Some digital radios would have to be reprogrammed with user's DMR ID.

\* It is a learning curve to bring everyone up to speed

\* Weren't we already considering moving to digital?

\* We need to rethink how we do a net.

\* Show and tell of a DMR radio and the cost.

After all the discussion, Andy Durette-KB1HIP pointed out that the TARC Board and Officers recommends that we keep the UHF repeater in the DMR mode. He moved that we keep the 440 repeater in the DMR mode as recommended. It was seconded by Don Jansen-KI4VGE and passed with a unanimous vote.

A repeater committee is needed to help with Paul Morris Drive. Glenn Hyde-N4MXQ will be one member and two others are needed.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** – Stew Haag-W4MO told the club about the DV4mini dongle that creates a hotspot from your PC to use the DMR. He told anyone with questions to contact him.

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 7:58 PM, a motion to adjourn was made by Bob Avrutik-N1RA, seconded by Glenn Hyde-N4MXQ, and passed. There were 16 members and 1 visitor present.

**PROGRAM** – Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB did a presentation on ROMEO - Technology Updates.

Dave Gill-K4JDG

Acting Secretary

**-- JUNE MEETING --**

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **08 June 2016** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Bob Miller-KJ4NLP will present a program on San Francisco's 977' self-supporting Sutro Tower. This tower was completed in 1973 is used to transmit the signals of eleven television stations and four FM radio stations and for various other communications services. It's an architectural and communications marvel. So come on out and learn more about this unusual tower.

## 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
Uganda – 5X1O by KK7PW, spare time op	Now to 08 July	77	--	<b>23-05</b>	--	<b>22-00</b>	--	2300	--	NO
Norfolk Is – VK9WI; WIA team op	Now to 24 June	250	<b>05-11</b>	<b>04-13</b>	<b>03-07</b>	<b>01-05</b>	23-04	21-04	23-03	NO
Br. Virgin Is – VP2V/K6TOP; ** spare time	Now to 15 June	114	--	<b>00-24</b>	<b>16-04</b>	16-03	NO	NO	NO	NO
Curacao – PJ2/PB0AEX; ++	Now to 06 June	137	--	--	--	16-04	--	NO	--	NO
Marshall Is – V73HA by CX3AN, HF & 6m	02 to 07 June	282	--	<b>05-13</b>	<b>04-13</b>	<b>01-05</b>	23-05	02-04	NO	NO
Cayman Is – ZF2MN by 2M0JMN holiday stl	03 to 17 June	169	<b>00-24</b>	<b>00-24</b>	17-04	<b>17-03</b>	NO	NO	NO	NO
St Martin – FS/K9EL all modes/bands incl 6m	05 to 23 June	113	<b>22-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>13-04</b>	13-04	NO	NO	NO	NO
Micronesia – V63AN by CX3AN, HF & 6m	07 to 09 June	293	--	<b>07-12</b>	<b>06-13</b>	<b>04-06</b>	11-13	02-04	NO	NO
Palau – T88AN by CX3AN, HF & 6m	09 to 14 June	307	--	<b>08-12</b>	<b>08-12</b>	11-14	10-12	NO	NO	NO
St Martin – FS/W5LAC, HF	11 to 25 June	113	<b>22-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>13-04</b>	13-04	NO	NO	NO	NO
Sint Marten – PJ7/W5LAC, HF	11 to 25 June	113	<b>22-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>13-04</b>	13-04	NO	NO	NO	NO
St Kitts – V47JA by W5JON, ++ HF & 6m	14 June-15 July	114	<b>22-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>12-04</b>	22-03	NO	NO	NO	NO
Mauritius – 3B8/M0RCX, HF & 6m SB & Ry	15 June-14 July	88	--	<b>23-03</b>	01-02	2330	NO	NO	NO	NO
St Barthelemy – FJ/W9DR (6m);W9AEB (hf)	17 to 29 June	113	--	<b>00-24</b>	<b>13-04</b>	14-04	NO	NO	NO	NO
Greenland – OX/NA8O	19 to 24 June	13	--	<b>00-10</b>	<b>22-12</b>	12-05	0200	NO	NO	NO
Maldives – 8Q7HW by DK1HW, all modes	20 to 28 June	41	0030	<b>00-01</b>	NO	0100	0200	NO	NO	NO
Macao – XX9TGM by PG5M; **, 100w	20 to 27 June	341	--	NO	OPE	NIN	GS	FORE	CAS	T
Dominica – J79XE by WB4WXE, 6m & HF	22 June-11 July	117	<b>23-11</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>10-05</b>	16-04	21-03	NO	MO	MO
Bahamas – C6AUX by VE3IKV, 6m, ?HF?	23 June-08 July	113	<b>00-24</b>	<b>12-05</b>	12-04	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Malta – 9H3G by 4 op team, all modes	28 June-04 July	55	--	<b>22-07</b>	<b>21-08</b>	17-00	14-00	NO	NO	NO

Updated 30 May based on the 30 May *The Weekly DX*, the 25 May *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.

### -- MAY SOLAR ACTIVITY --

During the month of May the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 83 to 108, with a mean value of 93.2 (vs. 120.2 for May 2015 and 130.0 for May 2014), and the  $A_p$  index was  $\geq 7$  on 23 days. Through 30 May, the sunspot number ranged from 13 to 88, with a mean of 49.4.

May was a relatively quiet month, with 25 C-class flares through the 30<sup>th</sup>. Severe geomagnetic disturbances drove the  $A_p$  up to 32 on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 94 on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 32 on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 27 on 30 May.

### -- JUNE FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at very low levels with C-class flares possible throughout the outlook period.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to reach high levels on 05-07 and 12-16 June with normal to moderate levels expected throughout the remainder of the month.

Geomagnetic field activity is likely to reach G1 (Minor) geomagnetic storm levels on 05 June and active conditions are expected on 06, 11-13, 17 and 24 June, all due to the influence of multiple recurrent coronal hole high speed streams. Quiet and quiet to unsettled conditions are expected throughout the remainder of the outlook period under a nominal solar wind regime.

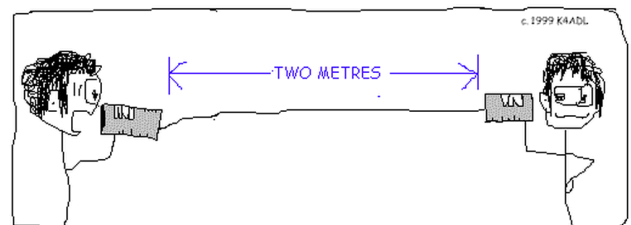
The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 75 to 85 and average 78.8 during June.

(From *NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 30 May 2016, *NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 30 May 2016, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 30 May 2016.)

### -- MAGIC BAND SEASON --

We are now into the "season" for Sporadic E propagation, which offers the potential for DX QSOs on Six Meters—"The Magic Band." Note that a number of the above DX operations—especially in the Caribbean--are offering 6m activity, and poor high band HF propagation. Es propagation cannot be forecast, hence the name "sporadic." In addition to single hop propagation in North America and the Caribbean, multi-skip Es can offer 6m openings to Japan, the Southern Pacific, Europe and Africa. Several stations here in CQ Zone 5 have worked over 180 DXCC entities on 6m. If you're "antenna restricted" think about 6m.

### The K4ADL Cartoon Korner



THE EARLY YEARS

## MAJOR CONTESTS DURING JUNE 2016

DigiFest			SEANET Contest			UKSMG Summer Contest		
04 June 0400Z	05 June 2000Z		04 June 1200Z	05 June 0700Z		04 June 1300Z	05 June 1300Z	
3.5-28	--	Digital Modes	3.5-28	--	CW, SSB	--	50	All Modes
RST, 4-char Grid Square			RS(T), Serial			RS(T), Serial, 6-char Grid Square		
<a href="http://www.mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/rulese.html">http://www.mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/rulese.html</a>			<a href="http://www.seanet2016.com/contest.php">www.seanet2016.com/contest.php</a>			<a href="http://uksmg.org/summer-contest-rules.php">http://uksmg.org/summer-contest-rules.php</a>		
VK Shires Contest			Portugal Day Contest			ARRL June VHF Contest		
11 June 0600Z	12 June 0600Z		11 June 1200Z	12 June 1200Z		11 June 1800Z	13 June 0259Z	
3.5-28		CW, SSB	3.5-28	--	CW, SSB	--	50+	All Modes
RS(T), CQ Zone			RS(T), Serial			4-char Grid Square		
<a href="http://vkshires.vk2bo.com">http://vkshires.vk2bo.com</a>			<a href="http://www.rep.pt/portugal_day_contest/">www.rep.pt/portugal_day_contest/</a>			<a href="http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf">www.arrl.org/june-vhf</a>		
All Asian DX Contest			SMIRK Contest			His Majesty, King of Spain Contest		
18 June 0000Z	19 June 2359Z		18 June 0000Z	19 June 2359Z		25 June 1200Z	26 June 1200Z	
1.8-28	--	CW	--	50	CW, SSB	1.8-28	--	SSB
RST, 2-digit Age of Operator			6-char Grid Square			RS, Serial		
<a href="http://www.jarl.org/English/4_Library/">www.jarl.org/English/4_Library/</a>			<a href="http://www.smirk.org/contest.html">www.smirk.org/contest.html</a>			<a href="http://concursos.ure.es/en/">http://concursos.ure.es/en/</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.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2016/June%202016%20CORRAL.pdf> for the complete list of the 42 contests/sprints/QSO parties/etc. that will be held during June.

### -- ARRL EXPO AT 2016 DAYTON HAMVENTION® --



Was anyone left behind to mind the store in Newington?

### -- BOB-K1NOK DOES DAYTON --



Besides ham radio, Bob Marchese-K1NOK loves flying. Before attending the Hamvention, he and some buddies visited the historical site where the Wright brothers kept their plane and learned how to fly.

Here's Bob at the 1905 Hanger where Wilbur and Orville kept their plane and flew it over Torrance Huffman's 84-acre pasture. This is the place, eight miles from their home in Dayton, where the Wright Brothers learned to fly and then taught others to fly. This was first "air-field" in the US. Note the use of a flag rather than a wind sock.

-- THEN ON AND INTO THE HARA ARENA --



The inside displays were crowded as usual.



Many great prizes awaiting the lucky winners.



Some 23,000 – 25,000 attended Dayton this year. Looks pretty crowded in the main arena.

Following its inception (by SK TARC member Frank Schwab-W8OK) back in 1952, the annual Hamvention has been a magnet for hams from all corners of the world. Read more of its history at <http://hamvention.org/about/hamvention/>.

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



Stop horsing around; get on the air and bounce some signals off the sky.

-- ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS --

Engineers and scientists will never make as much money as business executives. Here's mathematical proof of why this is true:

**Postulate 1:** Knowledge is power

**Postulate 2:** Time is money

Engineers know that **Work/Time = Power**

Since **Knowledge = Power**, and **Time = Money**, we have **Work/Money = Knowledge**

Solving for Money, we get: **Work/Knowledge = Money**. Thus, as Knowledge approaches zero, Money approaches infinity.

**Conclusion:** The less you know, the more money you make.



Gil – QST April 1961

# June 2016

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, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	4
5	6	7 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	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, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	11 <b>TARC VE Session 10 AM Jacaranda Public Library</b>
12	13 DARN Emer- gency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE Rptr 145.430	14 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	15	16 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	17 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	18
19	20	21 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	22	23 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	24 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	25
26	27	28 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders are taken at 7:00 AM	29	30 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 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, PO Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274

**TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
PO 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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