



# 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>



-- MARCH 2015 --

## -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

February was a month of surprises and shocks with one whose potential exceeds that of the BPL oil spill, at least to hams worldwide. Whatever your thoughts concerning the ARRL they are watching your backs. I won't take up the space here but go to ARRL's web site and read the news concerning a company that would take over much of the HF frequencies for experimentation.

Andy Durette-KB1HIP began the Extra Class study lessons and to Andy I give A HUGE THANK YOU for your efforts.

Now to our big club project: the Sharks Tooth Festival. This year we will have two shelter sites; one for operational duties and the second one for public enjoyment and entertainment. Our new hard working secretary, Dave Gill-K4JDG, is gathering names for the following assignments: Friday set up and Sunday take down teams, operating/logging positions and last, but not least, public information personnel, plus monitoring the Sharks Tooth 10K Run on Saturday morning (10 bodies needed). I must add that all of this can be a lot of fun and it only happens once a year.

To repeat last month's admonishment: "BE THERE OR BE SQUARE".

VY 73 de Fred-KJ4TNI

## -- MARCH MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **11 March 2015** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Stan Robinson-W9SMR will offer a program on "Blown Away – Stupid Ham Stunts."

## -- LAST DAY FOR TARC DUES --

The 2-month grace period expires at midnight **28 February**. If you haven't paid your 2015 dues there's still some time to call up Treasurer San Yoder-K3SY (phone number in the roster) and tell him you will send him a check Monday morning. Otherwise, TNX for your past membership and Adios.

## -- THE TARCIAN EATING SOCIETY --



Yes, the TARCians do love to eat, to the extent that sometimes almost as many show up for breakfast as come out to our stated meetings. To say that the breakfasters far exceed the number checking into our two weekly nets would be a gross understatement.

Above, looking west, we see the 21 breakfasters present at our 17 February "occupation" of Peach's.



And here we go, up close from the west end of the tables.

In contrast, we had five (5) stations check into the 440 Net that evening—quite a comedown.

## -- PENDING TARC LIBRARY --

Jack Gaddas-KY1Z is donating some Amateur Radio books to the club for use by our members, and others are welcome to donate surplus books. Al Culbert-KOAL has offered space in his "Shack-house" for the books and Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI has purchased book shelves. A list of books will be made available and a system established to monitor loans of these books.

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club  
Minutes of the Meeting  
11 February 2015**

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM with a flag pledge. Introductions were then made all around, with Annette Hunneshagen, Mel Walter-KN9ZBF, and Ric Peterson-KD8QNZ being welcomed as visitors.

**MINUTES** – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 14 January 2015 meeting as published in the February 2015 issue of *The Communicator*. Al Culbert-K0AL so moved, seconded by Gary Hagens-K6OC, and passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – We received a thank you letter from the Venice Library for our donation of \$165 for use of their conference room for our VE Sessions.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Treasurer San Yoder-K3SY reported that the starting balance was \$4,670.87. Receipts were \$22 from the January 50/50, \$5 donation from Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX, \$165 Library donation from Jack Sproat-W4JS, and \$325 for dues for a total of \$517.00. Expenses were \$61.25 to Dave Gill-K4JDG for Florida Corporation fee, \$165 donation to the Venice Library, and \$34 for name tags for a total of \$260.25. The closing balance was \$4,927.62. Bob Avrutik-N1RA moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Al Culbert-K0AL, and passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**SUNSHINE** – Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB had a slight seizure, but was looking good at the meeting.

Tom McDermitt- W3GXV had Cochlear Implants. Turn on date is March 13.

**VE TESTING** – A number of candidates expected to show up at the 14 February VE session.

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

**PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP** – San Yoder-K3SY reported that we have 58 full members, seven student members, 1 honorary member, and five life members for a total of 71 members.

**NET OPERATIONS** – Fred reminded all of our 440 and 2-meter nets. Fred noted the 440 Net attendance was a little light.

**LIAISON TO QCWA** – There were 33 members and spouses at our 04 February lunch at Denny's on Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota. Dennis Blanchard-K1YPP did a presentation about a hike he and his wife did "on the way" to Santia-

go. Along the way they did some QRP work with a wire antenna thrown over a tree. The Camino de Santiago ("The Way") is in Northern Spain. Dennis may be able to do the presentation at a future TARC meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Sharks Tooth Festival planning.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI announced we will have an extra lot and tent for hands on experiments to draw in people. Al Culbert-K0AL can provide the extra tent. Fred also said he needed 10 volunteers to support the Sharks Tooth 10K run. An email will be sent out asking for volunteers.

Andy Durette-KB1HIP will start the Extra Class prep courses on 17 February at Venice Coast Guard Aux. Bldg starting at 6:30 PM. Jack Gaddas-KY1Z has some books to donate to the club and suggested we start a library somewhere. Al Culbert-K0AL volunteered a spot in his Ham Shack. Details need to be worked out.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** – Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX suggested we contact HOAs and other antenna restricted associations and explain the benefits of Amateur Radio in disaster conditions. A letter could be sent to selected HOAs with follow up by having someone present at their committee meetings. Discussion followed with examples of success stories.

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 7:45 PM, a motion to adjourn was made by Bob Avrutik-N1RA, seconded by Andy Durette-KB1HIP, and passed. There were 23 members and 3 visitors present.

**OTHER** – Dave Gill-K4JDG announced that Stew Haag-W4MO donated 3 desktop PCs to the club. We need to decide how to raffle/sell these units as a club money maker.

Stan Robinson-W9SMR came up with a TARC members' competition for the 2014 ARRL Centennial QSO Party. He printed up awards for the top performers and Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI presented them. Bob Schneider-W5GJ, Jack Sproat-W4JS, Bob Avrutik-N1RA, and Dave Gill-K4JDG all took home awards. Now all they have to do is figure out how to get their QSL cards.

**PROGRAM** – Jack Sproat-W4JS gave a presentation on QSLing.

Dave Gill-K4JDG  
Secretary

*There is in the worst of fortunes the best chance of a happy ending.*

*No one has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.*

## 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
Palestine – E41MT; YL operator	Now Active	49	--	--	--	<b>12-02</b>	--	--	--	15-17
So. Georgia Is – VP8DOZ; by ZL4DB	Now to 31 Mar	155	--	--	--	--	<b>21-01</b>	--	--	14-18
Tanzania – 5H1OC, 5H1ES; Italian team	Now to 11 Mar	83	<b>23-04</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>18-01</b>	<b>12-00</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>13-21</b>	<b>15-19</b>
St Pierre & Miquelon – FP/KV1J; SSB/RTTY	Now to 10 Mar	39	<b>22-12</b>	<b>00-24</b>	<b>11-01</b>	<b>13-22</b>	14-20	16-18	16-18	NO
Kenya – 5Z4/DF3FS & DL9OLI, **	Now to 08 Mar	76	<b>23-04</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>18-02</b>	<b>12-00</b>	<b>12-23</b>	<b>13-21</b>	<b>15-19</b>
Juan Fernandez – 3G0ZC; by 23 ops, 8 radios	Now to 08 Mar	177	<b>00-11</b>	<b>23-13</b>	<b>22-13</b>	<b>12-07</b>	<b>13-01</b>	<b>13-00</b>	<b>14-23</b>	<b>15-22</b>
Ascension Is – ZD8D; German team, lo bands	Now to 06 Mar	108	<b>23-08</b>	<b>21-10</b>	<b>20-09</b>	<b>12-02</b>	<b>12-00</b>	<b>12-23</b>	<b>13-23</b>	<b>14-21</b>
Vietnam – XV7BM; by JA8BMK	01 to 31 March	348	NO	<b>11-12</b>	<b>11-12</b>	<b>12-02</b>	<b>13-01</b>	<b>14-18</b>	15-17	15-17
Micronesia – V63CO; by JA8COE	02 to 06 March	293	<b>07-13</b>	<b>06-14</b>	<b>06-14</b>	<b>13-05</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>14-01</b>	<b>20-23</b>	<b>20-22</b>
Micronesia – V63JYR; by JR1JYR, all modes	05 to 11 March	293	<b>07-13</b>	<b>06-14</b>	<b>06-14</b>	<b>13-05</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>14-01</b>	<b>20-23</b>	<b>20-22</b>
Kenya – 5Z4LS; by G3RWF, **	05 to 18 March	76	<b>23-04</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>18-02</b>	<b>12-00</b>	<b>12-23</b>	<b>13-21</b>	<b>15-19</b>
Eritrea – E3???; by 9-op international team	06 to 17 March	61	<b>23-04</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>17-02</b>	<b>12-01</b>	<b>13-23</b>	<b>14-21</b>	15-20
Andaman & Nicobar Is – VU4I, VU4A	06 to 18 March	8	NO	<b>23-00</b>	<b>23-00</b>	<b>12-02</b>	<b>13-01</b>	<b>14-20</b>	<b>16-19</b>	16-19
Dem. Rep. Congo – 9Q0HQ; by 7-op team	10 to 25 March	88	<b>23-06</b>	<b>22-06</b>	<b>22-07</b>	<b>16-07</b>	<b>11-01</b>	<b>12-23</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>15-20</b>
Palau – T88TL, T88GI, T88XX	11 to 13 March	306	<b>08-12</b>	<b>08-14</b>	<b>07-14</b>	<b>12-21</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>14-01</b>	<b>21-00</b>	21-22
Mariana Is – AH0KT; by JH8PHT, all modes	11 to 15 March	306	<b>08-12</b>	<b>07-13</b>	<b>07-14</b>	<b>12-03</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>20-01</b>	<b>21-23</b>	21-22
Kuwait – 9K2F; from Failaka Is (AS-118)	11 to 16 March	44	<b>23-03</b>	<b>22-04</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>11-01</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>13-17</b>	<b>15-16</b>	15-16
Solomon Is – H44NT; by EA3NT	11 to 16 March	275	--	--	--	<b>02-16</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>19-01</b>	<b>19-00</b>	--
Vietnam – 3W2JK; by SP5APW	11 to 17 March	348	NO	<b>11-12</b>	<b>11-12</b>	<b>12-01</b>	<b>13-01</b>	<b>14-18</b>	15-17	15-17
Malawi – 7QAA; by teams, all modes	11 Mar – 01 Apr	90	<b>23-04</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>22-05</b>	<b>18-07</b>	<b>11-01</b>	<b>12-00</b>	<b>13-22</b>	<b>14-19</b>
The Gambia – C5/M1KTA; low power	12 to 17 March	88	<b>23-08</b>	<b>21-10</b>	<b>20-11</b>	<b>11-02</b>	<b>12-01</b>	<b>13-23</b>	<b>14-21</b>	15-20
Palau – T88YD; by 7K2TJJ	14 to 18 March	306	<b>08-12</b>	<b>08-13</b>	<b>07-13</b>	<b>12-20</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>14-01</b>	<b>21-23</b>	21-22
Cape Verde – D44TEG; by HB9EBT **	15 to 27 March	89	--	<b>20-11</b>	<b>19-12</b>	<b>11-02</b>	<b>12-00</b>	<b>14-22</b>	<b>16-20</b>	16-20
United Arab Emirates – A6/DK5ON CW/digi	18 to 27 March	43	--	<b>22-04</b>	<b>22-04</b>	<b>16-01</b>	<b>12-21</b>	<b>13-18</b>	14-18	15-17
Nepal – 9N???; by 3-man Polish team	18 to 30 March	13	NO	<b>23-01</b>	<b>23-01</b>	<b>12-03</b>	<b>12-17</b>	<b>13-15</b>	14-15	14-15
Aland Is – OH0/OG2K; SSB, digi holiday stl	19 to 22 March	31	--	--	--	--	<b>12-19</b>	--	14-18	--
Guam – KH2/JS6RRR; all modes	19 to 23 March	306	<b>08-12</b>	<b>07-13</b>	<b>07-13</b>	<b>01-17</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>20-01</b>	<b>21-23</b>	21-22
Chagos – VQ9XR; by N7XR, all modes	19 to 27 March	313	<b>23-02</b>	<b>22-02</b>	<b>22-03</b>	<b>17-03</b>	<b>11-23</b>	<b>12-22</b>	<b>14-21</b>	15-20
Reunion – FR/F5MNW	19 Mar – 14 Apr	91	<b>23-03</b>	<b>22-03</b>	<b>22-04</b>	<b>19-01</b>	<b>16-22</b>	<b>14-18</b>	<b>13-16</b>	14-16
Norfolk Is – VK7ANN & VKYUM/VK9M	20 to 27 March	250	--	<b>05-14</b>	<b>05-13</b>	<b>01-15</b>	<b>18-04</b>	<b>19-02</b>	<b>20-01</b>	<b>21-23</b>
Nauru – C21EU; by 4-op team, all modes	20 to 27 March	279	--	<b>05-13</b>	<b>05-14</b>	<b>01-16</b>	<b>13-02</b>	<b>14-01</b>	<b>19-23</b>	19-22
Micronesia – V6Z; by 2-op team, all modes	27 Mar – 09 Apr	293	<b>07-12</b>	<b>06-13</b>	<b>02-16</b>	<b>13-03</b>	<b>19-01</b>	<b>20-22</b>	<b>20-22</b>	20-22

Updated 26 February based on the 23 February 2015 *The Weekly DX*, 25 February 2015 *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.

### -- FEBRUARY SOLAR ACTIVITY --

Through 26 February the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 111 to 153, with a mean value of 129.1 (vs. 170.3 for February 2014 and 108.7 for February 2013), and the  $A_p$  index was  $\geq 7$  on 13 days. Through 26 February, the sunspot number ranged from 39 to 132, with a mean of 71.2.

February was quiet to unsettled, with two M-class and 52 C-class flares through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. While the polar paths sometimes weak, propagation was generally favorable on all HF bands.

### -- MARCH FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at very low to low levels through 04 March. From 05-18 March a chance of moderate activity exists, followed by very low to low conditions 19-21 March.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at normal to moderate levels with the potential of moderate to high levels 01-09 and 15-19 March.

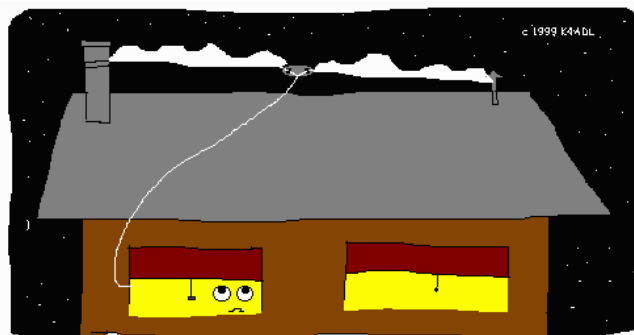
Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at quiet to unsettled levels with active periods likely

01-02, 16-17 and 26-29 March due to recurrent coronal hole high speed solar wind streams.

The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 115 to 135 and average 123.7 during March.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 23 February 2015, NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table, 23 February 2015, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 23 February 2015.)

### The K4ADL Cartoon Korner



WILBUR ASSUMED HIS MAGNET-WIRE DIPOLE WAS INVISIBLE TO THE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, BUT THE FIRST SNOWSTORM OF THE SEASON PROVED HIM WRONG.

## MAJOR CONTESTS DURING MARCH 2015

UBA (Belgian) Contest		North American QSO Party		ARRL International DX Contest	
28 Feb 1300Z	01 Mar 1300Z	28 Feb 1800Z	01 Mar 0600Z	07 Mar 0000Z	08 Mar 2359Z
3.5-28	--	CW	3.5-28	--	RTTY
RS, Serial		Name, State/Province		RS, State/Province	
<a href="http://www.uba.be/en/hf/contests-rules">www.uba.be/en/hf/contests-rules</a>		<a href="http://www.ncjweb.com">www.ncjweb.com</a>		<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>	
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship		Tesla Memorial HF Contest		QCWA Spring QSO Party	
07 Mar 1800Z	See Website	14 Mar 1800Z	15 Mar 0800Z	14 Mar 1800Z	15 Mar 1800Z
1.8-28	--	RTTY	3.5	--	CW
Regional abbreviation and Serial		RST, Serial, 4-char Grid Square		Call, Yr. lic'd, Name, Chaptr (if any)	
<a href="http://uarl.com.ua/openrtty/2015">http://uarl.com.ua/openrtty/2015</a>		<a href="http://www.radiosport.org.rs/HFTeslaMemorial">www.radiosport.org.rs/HFTeslaMemorial</a>		<a href="http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm">www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm</a>	
North American Sprint		BARTG HF RTTY Contest		Russian DX Contest	
15 Mar 0000Z	15 Mar 0359Z	21 Mar 0200Z	22 Mar 0200Z	21 Mar 1200Z	22 Mar 1159Z
3.5-14	--	RTTY	3.5-28	--	RTTY
Both calls, Serial, Name, S/P/C		3-digit Serial, 4-digit Time		RS(T), Serial	
<a href="http://www.ncjweb.com">www.ncjweb.com</a>		<a href="http://www.bartg.org.uk">www.bartg.org.uk</a>		<a href="http://www.rdx.org">www.rdx.org</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/Contest\\_Corral\\_1503.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/Contest_Corral_1503.pdf) for the complete list of the 36 contests/sprints/QSO parties/etc. that will be held during March.

### -- A BOW TO MOTHER NATURE --



The SteppIR vertical of Bruce Brown-WA8IQF takes a bow, not for working Navassa Island but from the ice storm at his home up in Loganville, GA. Bruce had the element retracted, so that fiberglass ES is once again standing tall.

The whatnots and doodads on the vertical are plastic "evergreens" used by Bruce to somewhat disguise the antenna to resemble the adjacent conifers.

### -- HAVE YOU CONSIDERED PSK31? --

Stan Robinson-W9SMR is a dedicated operator of the PSK31 digital mode. PSK31 a good option for those who live in "controlled communities" such that they cannot erect outside antennas. There is a good amount of PSK31 activity, and DXing is quite viable.

The following comments by a California ham were recently posted on a PSK reflector:

*I saw Larry's spot for ZS4WW, and worked him! (Continent #1) - Thanks Larry!*

*I then worked DP4E (Continent #2)*

*Then, LU7WW (Continent #3)*

*Then, YB1BNI (Continent #4)*

*Then 5 JA stations and an HL station (Continent #5)*

*Then for good measure, I worked a W5 (Continent #6)*

*All this in about 1.5 hours. I had to take 1 break for eye drops because of my final cataract surgery yesterday, but came right back to the keyboard.*

*With the SFI at 118, the A index of 11, and K at 5, you'd think things to be mediocre at best.*

*Not so! Wouldn't it be nice to understand everything we know about something?*

*Milt-N6MG*

*So, in about 1.5 hours, N6MG achieved the necessary contacts for the IARU's Worked All Continents award via PSK31.*

*It should be noted that PSK stations usually run low power, to reduce bandwidth, and Milt's station was running 40 watts on 15 meters.*

*Are you missing the spirit and fun of ham radio because you're "antenna challenged"? If you can't work CW, why not consider the digital modes of RTTY and PSK in an effort to overcome your antenna handicap? Matched to an indoor antenna, you just might be surprised at what you can work. At least think about it.*

## -- THE FANTASTIC K1N TEAM --



The Navassa Island-K1N DXpedition shut down at 1130 UTC 15 February after logging 140,002 Q's with 35,729 stations during that 15-day operation. They had a rough time getting started due to bad weather but once the team, stations and antennas were all in order, it was shake, rattle and roll. An excellent operation on 11 bands. An interesting and revealing interview with team member Glenn Johnson-W0GJ can be read at <http://www.mdxc.org/k1n-interview-for-mdxc-by-w0gj/#more-6209>

## -- TRYING TO PROTECT OUR BANDS --

The ARRL has asked the MITRE Corporation of Bedford, Mass., which plans to conduct experimental transmissions over wide portions of the HF spectrum, either to avoid Amateur Radio allocations or to announce the times and frequencies of their transmissions in advance. Last fall the FCC granted MITRE a 2-year Part 5 Experimental License, [WH2XCI](#), to operate 21 transmitters at 10 fixed New York and Massachusetts sites. MITRE plans to test wideband HF communication techniques on a variety of bands between 2.5 MHz and 16 MHz. The WH2XCI Experimental License authorizes maximum bandwidths of 5 kHz, 500 kHz, and 1 MHz at effective radiated power levels of 6 W, 24 W, or 122 W. MITRE has indicated that most bandwidths would be between 100 and 300 kHz.

In a 12 February letter to MITRE, ARRL Chief Counsel Chris Imlay-W3KD stated that “[I]t will not be possible for MITRE to operate these transmitters within the Amateur Radio Service allocations...without causing harmful interference to a large number of Amateur Radio operators on an ongoing basis.” Imlay said that if MITRE does not agree to avoid ham radio bands or to announce times and frequencies of transmissions ahead of time, the ARRL will ask the FCC to rescind the company's Experimental Li-

cense or to impose a prior notification requirement “in real time for each and every use of the transmitters authorized at each site.” “At these power levels with the operating parameters proposed, it will be impossible to conduct your tests at any time within the Amateur Radio allocations and, at the same time, avoid harmful interference,” Imlay said. He noted that MITRE already conceded this point in a technical exhibit submitted to the FCC with respect to its 1 MHz bandwidth mode.

Imlay said that when interference from MITRE's wide-bandwidth transmitters “inevitably occurs in the narrow-bandwidth, sensitive receivers” hams use, amateur licensees will have no way to determine the source of the interference or know to whom they might complain. “Thus, your assurance of operation on a ‘non-interference basis’ is meaningless under the circumstances, and yet that is both a special condition of operation” of the WH2XCI license and under FCC Part 5 regulations, Imlay told MITRE.

“It is ARRL's intention to ensure that this experimental authorization, improvidently granted to the extent that it includes heavily used Amateur Radio allocations, is not permitted to cause interference to ongoing Amateur Radio HF communications,” Imlay concluded.

(From the ARRL Website, 13 February 2015)

## -- COCOS ISLAND DXPEDITION --



A 4-man Polish team activated TI9/3Z9DX on 16 February for six days in an attempt to knock its #25 Most Wanted rank for this entity down a few steps. Bad weather caused delays in landing and caused them to shut down during their stay. In addition, the operating site they had to use was hemmed in with mountains, providing clear propagation only from the northwest to the north-northeast. The team did manage to hand out 15,748 Q's to The Deserving.

*There are no riches above a sound body.*

**-- NO MORE PAPER LICENSES --**

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC has continued to print and mail hard copy licenses.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization - as well as an unofficial "reference copy" - from the ULS License Manager.

According to the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including the cost of staff resources.

The FCC said that applicants or licensees who include a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official electronic authorization via e-mail. New license applicants who do not provide a FCC Registration Number (FRN) at the examination point will receive a printed license as well as an FRN and a temporary password to access the Commission Registration System (CORES).

The FCC said the watermark "Official Copy" will be printed on each page of an official authorization that a licensee prints out from the ULS. The WTB recently stopped using distinctive paper stock to produce hard copy licenses and has been printing these on "standard, white recycled paper." The Bureau noted that the distinctive paper stock it had used was six times more expensive than the plain recycled paper now used.

The ULS License Manager now includes settings that allow licensees to notify the WTB that they prefer to receive official authorizations on paper. Once the final procedures go into effect designating electronic access as the default, licensees can change the ULS License Manager setting so that the Bureau will print and mail a license document. Licensees also may contact FCC Support via the web at

[http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact\\_fcc\\_support](http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact_fcc_support) or via telephone or mail to request paper licenses.

(From ARRL Bulletin 4 ARLB004, 29 January 2015)

**-- HAMS HAVING FUN --**

As per the advance notice in the February edition of *The Communicator*, Stan Robinson-W9SMR, Bob Billingsley-KC9UR and Dennis Spiess-W2DEN operated from Gasparilla Island, IOTA NA-069 (US Island FL034S, EL86ur, Lee County) at the Boca Grande Lighthouse (ARLHS USA-910) as W9SMR/4 on 09 February 2015.

Due to an afternoon storm moving in from the Gulf, the trio had to cut their operation short, resulting in a bit more than just 6 hours on the air. Their stations were set up under the lighthouse with dipoles in the palm trees and verticals out on the beach just to the south.



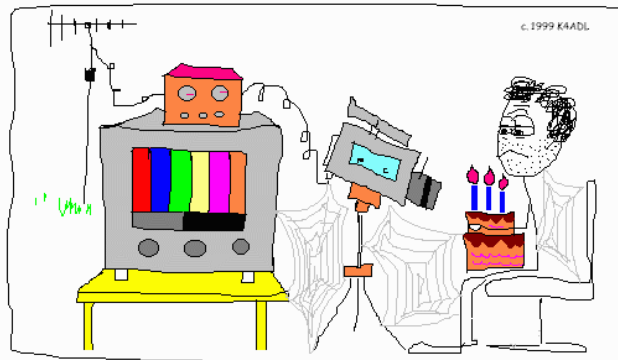
W2DEN and KC9UR operating under the Boca Grande Lighthouse.

A tally of contacts in 23 DXCC entities and 39 States shows:

10m JT-9 & JT-65	33 Q's
15 & 20m PSK-31	59 Q's
17 & 20m SSB	<u>102 Q's</u>
Total	194 Q's

Not bad for a non-weekend operation, for sure.

**The K4ADL KArtoon Korner**



WALLACE CELEBRATES HIS THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF WAITING FOR AN ATV STATION TO APPEAR ON HIS MONITOR

# March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	4 QCWA, 11:15 @ Denny's, Bee Ridge Rd. Sarasota	5 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	6 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	7
8	9 DARN Emergency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE Rptr 145.430	10 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	11 <b>TARC Meeting @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center</b>	12 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	13 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	14 <b>TARC VE Session 10 AM Venice Public Library</b>
15	16	17 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	18	19 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	20 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	21
22	23	24 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	25	26 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	27 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	28
29	30	31 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr				

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**

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