



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 Repeater – 444.100 MHz & 146.805 MHz(-) w/100 Hz PL
Web Site – <http://tamiamiarc.org>



-- MAY 2013 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

The TARC membership needs to recognize our Vice President, Andy Durette-KB1HIP, for his work in setting up the station at K4S site and his work in managing the "Special Event" operation for our participation in the Venice Sharks Tooth Festival, 12-14 April. If that wasn't enough, he furnished the beam antenna, amplifier and associated station equipment. That was in addition to Andy also working communications for the Sharks Tooth 10K Run on 13 April. Stew Hagg-W4MO supplied the HF transceiver for the K4S operation. San Yoder-K3SY assisted in both the 10K and the on-site K4S operation.

We had a great time with both activities, plus meeting a lot of old friends and making some new ones who stopped to chat. I learned a lot of items to watch for in selecting location and working with the multiple organizations involved in this event.

Next year we should plan on a total involvement at the site. I realize it is a bit of work but it can be done; it just takes commitment. Thanks to all and if I forgot anyone, please accept my apologies.

Those traveling, be safe and to all a great summer.

73 to All, Fred-KJ4TNI

-- MAY MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **08 May 2013** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB will offer a travelogue he's preparing entitled "Romantic Germany." Now ya gotta admit that sounds kinda enticing, so come on and enjoy Hans' efforts.

-- OVERVIEW OF K4S OPERATIONS --

A review of the logs from operation of Special Event Station K4S at the Sharks Tooth Festival site indicates that Bob Marchese-K1NOK, Andy Durette-KB1HIP, Roger Schmitt-KY4RS, Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO, Steve Lawrence-K9ARH and

San Yoder-K3SY were the primary operators/loggers.

In addition, five TARC members also put K4S on the air from their homes. The following tabulates the respective operations:

On-Site K4S Station	286 SSB Qs
Bob Avrutik-N1RA	57 RTTY Qs
Vic Ouellette-K1CGI	38 PSK31 Qs
Stan Robinson-W9SMR	37 PSK31 Qs
Jim Dirksen-W8MDM	7 PSK31 Qs
Jack Sproat-W4JS	105 SSB Qs
Total QSOs	530

Again, QRM noise at the festival site hindered the reception by the operators, so they worked hard to do as well as they did in consideration of that handicap.

Last year, when all operations were from members' homes, we had a total of 335 QSOs, so this year's operation was a significant improvement. Thanks to all assisted with this year's efforts in one way or other.

-- PRE-PROGRAM CONFERENCE --



TARC Program Chairman Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB confers with Tom Fraser-AK4ZM, as they prepare for Tom's excellent presentation on the first Antarctic expedition conducted by USN Admiral Richard E. Byrd in 1928-1930.

You will learn something new every day.

**TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Minutes of the Meeting
10 April 2013**

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM and, following a flag salute, introductions were made all around. Jim Dirksen-W8MDM from Sarasota was welcomed as a new member. Joe Thiel-WA1VWP from Venice, Eric Owen-KD4MZM from Sarasota and Carol Witt, XYL of Dave-WD9W were welcomed as visitors.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 13 March meeting as published in the April issue of *The Communicator*. Dave Witt-WD9W so moved, seconded by Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – On 04 April, as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and having less than \$50,000, an e-Postcard tax return was filed with and accepted by the IRS.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Don Jansen-KI4VGE read the Treasurer's Report for March. The starting balance was \$3800.04. Receipts were \$100.00 from membership dues, \$18.00 donation from Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI and \$18.00 from the March meeting 50/50, totaling \$136.00. Expenses were \$11.10 to Birch Communications for Internet service. The ending balance is \$3924.94. Roger Schmitt-KY4RS moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Bob Faulcon-N1LVO, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX gave a description of how he fell and broke his arm when disembarking the cruise ship in Port Everglades following an extensive cruise around South America.

VE TESTING – Several candidates are expected at our 13 April VE session, including Venice High School students.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL –Both repeaters are operational.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – San Yoder-K3SY advised that, as of the 22 March roster update, we have 53 paid members and five Life Members, for a total of 58 members.

NET OPERATIONS – No comments were offered.

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 25 members, spouses and friends present at the Suncoast Chapter 53 lunch/meeting on 03 April at Denny's on Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota. The program was a look at the Galapagos Islands, highlighting an Audubon Society tour Lenee and Conrad Owens-WA3RRS took there last year.

All are welcome to join us the first Wednesday of the month around 11:15 AM.

OLD BUSINESS – Fred-KJ4TNI reviewed that status of member support for our providing communications support for the Sharks Tooth 10-K Run on 13 April and/or operation of K4S from the Sharks Tooth Festival site. There was show of hands by 10 members for monitoring the 10-K Run. Andy Durette-KB1HIP has received the 2-element tri-band beam for use at the site.

NEW BUSINESS – Fred presented Jack Sproat-W4JS with an ARRL VE pin in recognition of his years of service as the VE Team Liaison.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – Jack-W4JS advised that DX on 10, 12 and 15 meters has been excellent over the past 10 days or so, with stations in Cocos-Keeling Islands, Indonesia, India, Hong Kong, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates being worked on those bands. Jack prodded the members to get on the air.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn at 7:35 PM was made by Bob Avrutik-N1RA, seconded by Dave Witt-WD9W, and passed. There were 22 members and three visitors present.

PROGRAM – Tom Fraser-AK4ZM introduced his program on the first Antarctic expedition by Admiral Richard E. Byrd, based on his personal research. With numerous period photos, Tom told of the previous expeditions, both successful and failures, and that Byrd wanted to fly over the South Pole—a first time accomplishment. Tom's presentation captured the attention of all present.

Jack Sproat-W4JS
Secretary



TARC member Paul Lesko-KK4HCP, assisted by TARC member Craig Hurley-KK4OLP, VHS W4VHS members working the Command Post for the 07 April 100-mile Southwest Florida Tour de Cure,.

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
South Sudan – Z81X	Now Active	74	00-04	23-04	22-05	20-07	18-04	17-01	15-04	18-20
Sudan – ST2FT; end date unclear	Now to 31 May	66	00-04	23-05	22-05	19-08	10-02	13-00	17-22	17-22
Niger – 5U9AMO; by HB9AMO, spare time	Now to 30 May	77	00-05	22-07	21-07	18-10	15-00	13-00	16-23	NO
Tanzania – 5H3MB; by IK2GZU, spare time	Now to 08 May	83	00-04	23-04	22-05	20-06	17-01	16-00	13-00	13-00
French Polynesia – FO/KH0PR; CW, Digital	Now to 07 May	243	03-12	02-13	02-13	23-12	16-08	16-06	17-03	17-02
Tunisia – TS8TI; Major Italian operation	Now to 06 May	57	00-05	22-06	22-07	17-11	11-04	13-00	15-22	15-00
Senegal – 6V7T; by F5RAV, SSB, Digital	Now to 05 May	87	23-07	22-09	20-10	00-24	12-02	13-00	15-21	15-21
Ogasawara – JD1BVG, BLC, YBT; all modes	Now to 05 May	317	09-11	08-12	07-13	05-15	00-15	20-00	16-23	21-23
Micronesia – V6H and V6S; SSB, CW, Digi	Now to 05 May	293	08-11	07-12	06-13	04-15	01-14	19-03	20-00	20-00
Tonga – A35UD; by UT6UD, all modes	01 to 07 May	253	--	03-13	03-14	00-14	17-13	17-07	18-04	18-04
Mauritania – 5T1FOC; by 5T0JL	01 to 31 May	81	23-07	22-08	20-09	00-24	12-04	15-00	15-00	17-20
Lakshadweep Is – VU7KV; by W4VKU	02 to 05 May	36	0030	00-01	23-02	21-03	18-04	17-19	23-01	NO
Mariana Is – KH0TH & KH0TG; all modes	02 to 05 May	306	09-11	08-12	07-13	04-16	01-16	20-04	20-00	20-00
Aland Is – OH0/OI3V; Finnish team operation	03 to 05 May	31	00-04	23-07	22-08	18-12	12-00	12-22	12-22	NO
Norfolk Is – VK9NT; Major Australian op	03 to 13 May	250	06-11	04-13	04-13	01-13	19-07	20-06	20-03	20-03
So. Cook Is – E51AAO; by ZL1AAO, SSB	03 to 14 May	246	--	02-13	--	23-13	17-06	17-04	18-03	18-03
Egypt – SU8N; IOTA op by 4 SU operators	03 to 19 May	54	00-03	23-05	22-05	18-06	13-01	16-23	16-23	NO
Tonga – A35JP; by JA0RQV, CW & SSB	05 to 22 May	253	05-12	03-13	03-14	00-14	17-13	17-07	18-04	18-04
Mozambique – C91GR; by ZS6AYU, CW	07 to 11 May	101	00-05	23-05	22-06	22-08	11-17	12-17	13-17	13-17
So. Cook Is – E51AGY; by ZL2AGY, CW	07 to 31 May	246	04-11	02-13	02-13	23-13	17-06	17-04	18-03	18-03
Mariana Is – KH0/W3ANA & JA1RTS	08 to 12 May	306	09-11	08-12	07-13	04-16	01-16	20-04	20-00	20-00
Austral Is – FO/KH0PR; CW, RTTY, PSK	08 to 15 May	239	03-12	02-13	01-13	16-12	16-07	17-04	17-00	17-00
Reunion Is – TO1PF; by FR team, all modes	11 to 12 May	91	00-02	23-03	23-04	03-06	04-05	19-00	17-20	15-16
Maldives Is – 8Q???.; by G3VDB, **	13 to 26 May	41	--	--	--	21-03	--	--	--	--
Senegal – 6V7S; by RK4FF	13 to 30 May	87	00-07	22-09	20-10	00-24	12-02	13-00	15-21	15-21
Afghanistan – T6JP; by KB2OBQ, SSB, CW	15 May to 2014	26	NO	0030	00-01	21-04	00-04	18-21	01-02	NO
Marion Is – ZS8C; two ZS ops, SSB, Digital	15 May to 2014	130	--	00-06	23-08	06-11	08-15	11-14	12-14	12-14

Updated 29 April based on the 29 April *The Weekly DX*, the 24 April *QRZ DX*, and the NG3K Contest/DX Page, <http://www.ng3k.com>
Notes: Time in bold =h Bands with 75-100% opening; ??? = Call Sign not yet known; ++ = Mostly Phone; ** = Mostly CW; NO = No Opening forecast. Long Path bearings and opening times are underlined. All forecasts calculated using *W6ELProp V.2.60* propagation software, available to download at <http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/>. Solar Flux and K-index varied by date in accordance with USAF 45-Day A/P Forecast.

-- APRIL SOLAR ACTIVITY --

The Solar Flux ranged from 99 to 154, with a mean value of 125.0 (vs. 113.2 for April 2012 and 112.2 for April 2011), and the A-index was ≥ 7 on six days. The sunspot number through 29 April ranged from 86 to 162, with a mean of 111.0. Sunspot Regions 1710 to 1735 were active, with four M-class and 188 C-class flares. In spite of such extensive flare activity, major disturbances to the geomagnetic field only occurred 13-14 and 23-26 May.

-- MAY FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be low with a chance for M-class flares through 07 May as Region 1731 remains on the visible disk. Activity is expected to decrease to very low to low levels through 08 May. Activity will likely increase to low with M-class flares likely when Region 1726 returns on 09 May. Region 1731 returns on 20 May, keeping levels low with M-class flares likely through the end of the month.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at moderate

to high levels 01-02 May due to CH HSS effects. Values should decrease to normal to moderate levels from 03 through 21 May. Another increase to moderate to high levels due to recurrent CH HSS effects is expected 22-25 May.

The geomagnetic field should be at mostly quiet levels through 20 May. Minor storming is possible 21-23 May due to recurrent CH HSS. Mostly quiet levels should return 24 and 25 May and continue through the end of the month.

The Solar Flux should range from 120 to 140 and average 130.2 during May.

(From *NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 29 April 2013, *NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 29 April 2013, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 28 April 2013)

-- NOTABLE DX DURING APRIL --

A potpourri of good DX was available during April. VK9CZ from Cocos-Keeling Island ran up 26,000 Qs in two weeks. 5W0M from Samoa managed 67,000 Qs in two weeks. FH/DL7BC was active from Mayotte. Two German ops on Tokelau logged 14,600 Qs in about 10 days. Then Pai-VU2PAI and Krish-W4VKU/VU2VKU took to the bands as 8Q7KP from the Maldives.

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING MAY

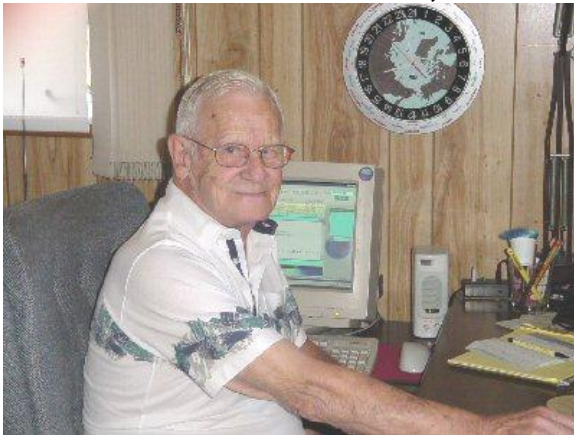
Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
ARI (<i>Italian</i>) International DX Contest	1200Z 04 May 1159Z 05 May	160 – 10 Meters SSB, CW, Digital	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), Serial
Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest	1200Z 11 May 1200Z 12 May	80 – 10 Meters RTTY	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial, CQ Zone (5, locally)
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z 11 May 1200Z 12 May	160 – 10 Meters SSB, CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), Serial
Portuguese Navy Day	1500Z 11 May 1500Z 12 May	80 – 10 Meters SSB, CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), Serial, CQ Zone (5, locally)
50 MHz Sprint Sprint	2300Z 11 May 0300Z 12 May	6 Meters SSB, CW, Digital	Anyone, Anywhere	Grid Square (6 characters)
Portuguese Navy Day	0800Z 18 May 1500Z 18 May	80 – 10 Meters Digital modes	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial, CQ Zone (5, locally)
EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z 18 May 1200Z 19 May	80 – 10 Meters PSK63	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
His Majesty King of Spain Contest	1200Z 18 May 1200Z 19 May	160 – 10 Meters CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
CQ WW WPX Contest	0000Z 25 May 2400Z 26 May	160 – 1- Meters CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial

Legend: Serial = 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 and "membership clubs" contests are not shown. See above references for information.

-- DON FONTAINE-N4ET; SK --



Honorary Life Member Don Fontaine-N4ET passed away 29 April at the age of 96. Don and his wife Alma-N4MML were longtime members of the TARC. In addition to being an active member, Don will always be remembered for "stepping up to the plate" in our dark days back in 2005 and agreeing to be the candidate for Vice President in our Extraordinary Election of new officers. Along with Matt Klapp-W2EQV (SK) as our new President, Don helped drive the resurgence of the TARC into the club that it is today.

While Don and Alma have not be to our meetings in recent years, we're sure there was a soft spot in their hearts and many memories of the TARC. *Via Con Dios*, Don.

-- OK, HERE'S WHERE K4S GOES! --



Dave-K4JDG, Jim-KJ4NDO, Andy-KB1HIP and Bob-K1NOK pause after the beam went up.

-- LOOKING GOOD --



Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO checking out the antenna installation. Ain't there something beautiful about a nice beam antenna up above the horizon (or the Mote Marine fish tanks in this case).

-- OK, THIS ONE HOOKS TO THAT ONE --



Potential Tamiami ARC member Dennis Leach-KG4SBG and Andy Durette-KB1HIP cross check to make sure the K4S station is going together as it should.

A lot of time, effort, personal expenses, administrative activities, kicking and prodding went on to get the K4S station up and running from the Sharks Tooth Festival site. A number of those who provided support are not shown in this selection of photos taken by Bob Marchese-K1NOK. However, the logs show who they were and their fellow TARC members, who kept the station on the air, know them. TNX, guys!!!

-- READ THE MANUAL, DENNIS --



While Roger Schmitt-KY4RS observes, Andy-KB1HIP gives his attention to Dennis-KG4SBG who is apparently researching some fine points about proper operation of the equipment.

-- ROCKIN' AND ROLLIN' --



Looks like Andy's pulling out stations while Dennis takes a break to pass the time of day with Jim.

And so went our 2013 K4S operation. The TARC initiated operating from the Sharks Tooth Festival in 2006, and we've enjoyed a good relationship with the Special Athlete Boosters ever since. May that connection endure into the future, but it will take some time and effort by our members. Please lend assistance next year if you can.

The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that extra.

May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 QCWA Lunch @ Denny's 11:15 AM	2 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	3 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM	4
5	6	7 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	8 TARC Meet- ing @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center	9 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	10 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM	11 TARC VE Session @ 10:00 AM, Venice Library
12	13 DARN Emer- gency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE re- peater 145.430	14 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	15	16 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	17 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM	18
19	20	21 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	22	23 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	24 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM	25
26	27	28 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	29	30 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	31 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:15 AM	

NOTE: If the W4AC 146.805 Repeater is inoperative, nets scheduled for activity will be held on the W4AC 444.100 MHz Repeater. 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 __, Training __, Packet __, RTTY __,
Computers __, DXing __, Contests __, Field Day __, Publicity __, Emergency Communications __, Special Events __,
VHF/UHF __, SSTV __, ATV __, Repeater __, 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

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