



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 2014 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL!!

The Shark Tooth Festival was the most awesome and inspiring turnout of TARC members to date. I say that because next year's is just around the corner. HiHi. It came together Friday at the set up for our operational site. About two hours after arrival we were ready to open up K4S on the 20 meter band and, trust me, it was ready for us. The Mosley Mini-32-A beam antenna supplied by Andy Durette-KB1HIP was smoking till we shut down at 3 PM on Sunday.

Come early Saturday morning ten of us met just outside the Festival gate to pick up the HT's (thanks to Stew Haag-W4MO), plus safety vests and then we all left for our monitoring locations along the 10K race route. The race started at 7:15 AM with the first two runners finishing in less than 35 minutes. The Balloon Ladies who followed the runners finished at about 10:15 am. We had breakfast at the Airport's food emporium after which we went to work at the K4S site. There were a lot of operators, but I have to point out that Dave Gill-K4JDG operated solo from the site Friday and Saturday evenings.

This was the most successful year for our operation of K4S. The on-site station racked up 951 QSOs and the four supporting home stations worked 105 stations on RTTY, 114 on PSK31 and 142 on SSB, giving this year's operation a grand total of 1314 QSOs. That's 784 Q's more than in 2013!!!

To list and thank all who aided with this event would require posting the entire club roster. Though the event ended Sunday, the work continues. Our secretary, Jack Sproat-W4JS, has utilized some excellent photos from TARC members for a new K4S QSL card and is handling the task of responding to all incoming QSLs for K4S. To date some 130 QSLs have been received for our efforts. Again, thanks to all who assisted with the Sharks Tooth activities.

VY 73 to All de Fred-KJ4TNI

-- MAY MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **14 May 2014** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB will offer a video commemorating the centennial of the ARRL.

-- THEY'RE OFF AND RUNNING! --



Again this year, TARC volunteers manned 10 monitoring stations along the route of the Sharks Tooth 10-K Run. San Yoder-K3SY was out at the "Big Bend" region.

-- OUR NEW K4S QSL CARD --



This is the new K4S QSL card which is on order with UX5UO Print, and should be received by mid-May. TNX to those who shot the photos used for this card—they catch the spirit of both the Festival and the K4S operation.

---000---

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the Meeting
09 April 2014**

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM with a flag pledge. Terry Post-W0RPO of Nokomis and Joe Thiel-WA1VNP of Venice were welcomed as visitors. Introductions were then made all around.

SHARKS TOOTH 10K MONITORING: Fred introduced Karen Haynes from the Active Sun-coast Foundation, sponsor of the Sharks Tooth 10K Run to be held on 12 April 2014. Karen quickly reviewed the greater involvement by the Venice PD and less vehicular access to the race route. Karen provided T-shirts to be given to the volunteers at the monitoring stations.

SIGN-UP SHEETS – Sign-up sheets for volunteer assistance for the 10K Run; set-up, operation, and take-down of the on-site K4S station; and home station operations of K4S were passed around.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 12 March meeting as published in the April issue of *The Communicator*. Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX so moved, seconded by Pat Marx-KA8MMG, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Dave Gill-K4JDG reported that the starting balance was \$4595.99. Receipts were \$16.00 from the March 50/50, \$85.00 from dues payments, and a \$15.00 donation from visitor Larry Bryan-W8LIG, totaling \$116.00. Expenses were \$49.50 for purchase of call sign badges. The 31 March closing balance was \$4662.49. Bob Avrutik-N1RA moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Phil Jung-K9JP, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – No input.

VE TESTING – There have been several queries relative to our 12 April VE session.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Both repeaters are operational.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – San Yoder reported that the 06 April roster shows six student members, five life members and 52 regular members for a total of 63 members.

NET OPERATIONS – There is a definite need for better participation by the members.

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 30 members, spouses and friends at our 02 April lunch at Denny's up in Sarasota. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB offered an ARRL video commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the League.

OLD BUSINESS – Preparation for Sharks Tooth Festival: A brief review of the preparations was made.

Volunteer for PIO Position: While no one has yet volunteered for this position, Fred recognized the action of San Yoder-K3SY for submitting notices of our proposed K4S operation to both the *Herald Tribune* and the *Venice Gondolier* in hope that they might show interest in covering our activity.

NEW BUSINESS – Nothing.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – Terry Post-W0RPO commented that there are certain amateur radio applications available for those who use Android phones.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn was made by Bob-N1RA, seconded by Marty Folan-KB1TWE, and passed. There were 16 members and two visitors present.

PROGRAM – Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB presented a Power Point presentation on "Italy as Seen by a Radio Ham."

Jack Sproat-W4JS
Secretary

-- REGIONAL REPEATERS --

Arcadia	W4MIN	147.075(+)	100 Hz
Arcadia	W4MIN	147.180(+)	
Bradenton	K4GG	146.820(-)	100 Hz
Bradenton	KF4MBN	147.195(+)	100 Hz
Englewood	N4EAR	146.700(-)	77 Hz
Englewood	K0DGF	146.775(-)	77 Hz
Englewood	W4AC	146.805(-)	100 Hz
Grove City	K8ONV	146.865(-)	136.5 Hz
Laurel	N4SER	145.130(-)	100 Hz
North Port	K4NPT	147.120(+)	136.5 Hz
North Port	W0AC	146.970(-)	136.5 Hz
Pt. Charlotte	N4FOB	146.925(-)	136.5 Hz
Pt. Charlotte	KS4ST	147.015(+)	
Pt. Charlotte	W4DUX	147.255(+)	136.5 Hz
Punta Gorda	WX4E	146.745(-)	136.5 Hz
Punta Gorda	KF4QWC	146.685(-)	136.5 Hz
Sarasota	W4IE	146.910(-)	
Sarasota	N4SER	146.730(-)	100 Hz
Sarasota	N4SER	147.390(+)	100 Hz
Sarasota	KF4RJC	145.370(-)	74.4 Hz
Verna	NI4CE	145.430(-)	100 Hz
Englewood	K0DGF	444.625(+)	77 Hz
Englewood	W4AC	444.100(+)	100 Hz
Sarasota	WC4EM	443.550(+)	100 Hz
Sarasota	K2MZ	443.825(+)	100 Hz
Sarasota	KF4RJC	443.875(+)	100 Hz
Venice	KF4HXU	442.300(-)	82.5 Hz
Verna	NI4CE	442.950(+)	100 Hz

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
Angola – D3AA; by UA1QV	Now Active	95	00-06	22-07	22-07	17-11	09-02	14-00	15-00	15-00
UK Bases on Cyprus – ZC4MIS; by AG6IP	Now Active	48	00-03	23-04	22-05	18-07	14-01	18-21	20-00	NO
Sierra Leone – 9L1A; by 9A3A	Now to 31 May	91	23-07	21-09	21-09	07-05	10-04	15-19	14-02	14-02
Nepal – 9N7AA	Now to 23 May	13	NO	NO	NO	21-03	15-03	13-04	13-04	NO
Corsica – TK1R; Italian team operation	Now to 15 May	51	00-05	22-07	22-08	10-07	11-01	12-01	15-22	15-22
Ogasawara – JD1BMH; by JG7PSJ	Now to 11 May	317	--	08-12	08-12	04-16	13-06	20-04	20-22	20-22
Palau – T88ST; by JR2STX	Now to 07 May	306	09-11	08-12	08-13	05-16	12-06	20-04	21-23	21-23
Aves Island – YW0A; Team operation	Now to 06 May	119	22-11	00-24	00-24	00-24	11-05	13-03	16-20	13-03
Ogasawara – JD1BLY; by J15RPT	Now to 05 May	317	--	08-12	08-12	04-16	13-06	20-04	20-22	20-22
Fiji – 3D2RH; 3-man German team operation	Now to 04 May	258	05-12	04-13	04-13	01-14	18-14	18-06	18-02	19-00
Mauritius – 3B8/MORCX; SSB + digital	02 to 28 May	88	--	23-04	22-04	19-07	16-05	13-16	13-16	13-18
Dodecanese – SX5LA; Greek team operation	03 to 11 May	49	00-04	22-06	22-06	17-10	12-00	15-23	12-00	13-18
Ogasawara – JD1YBT; 2-man Japanese op	03 to 12 May	317	09-11	08-12	08-12	04-16	13-06	20-04	20-22	20-22
Liechtenstein – HB0DRK, HB0YRK; 2 DL's	04 to 15 May	46	00-05	22-07	21-08	00-24	11-01	13-00	16-20	16-20
Greenland – OX3LX; by OZ1DJJ, spare time	05 to 09 May	13	01-08	23-11	22-12	22-13	22-01	13-01	13-01	NO
Laos – XW???; by K4ZW	06 to 09 May	353	NO	NO	NO	10-13	13-03	14-19	14-18	14-18
Mariana Is – NH0J; 2-man Japanese operation	06 to 11 May	306	08-11	07-12	07-12	03-17	12-06	20-03	20-00	20-00
Crete – SW9XB; by DJ9XB, RTTY	06 to 16 May	51	00-04	22-06	22-06	18-10	11-01	15-23	15-23	15-23
Malawi – 7Q7VW; by DK2VW	06 to 21 May	90	00-04	23-05	23-05	19-09	05-00	15-22	16-21	16-21
Cyprus – 5B/UR4MCK, **	07 to 14 May	47	00-03	23-04	22-05	18-09	11-00	13-23	13-23	13-20
French Polynesia – FO/EI6DX, holiday style	07 to 18 May	243	03-12	02-13	02-13	16-13	15-12	16-07	16-05	17-21
Micronesia – V650XG; by JA1XGI	09 to 15 May	293	--	07-12	06-13	03-17	12-07	19-04	20-03	20-03
Iceland – TF/EA5IDQ; ++, digital, holiday stl	11 to 22 May	28	--	23-09	22-10	11-02	08-04	NO	NO	NO
Faeroe Is – OY/LA6RHA, OY/LA8FOA; ++	14 May	32	00-06	22-09	22-10	09-02	11-00	11-00	NO	NO
Micronesia – V63PSK; by JA1FMN, PSK	14 to 17 May	293	--	--	--	03-17	12-07	19-04	20-03	20-03
Botswana – A25GF; by ZS6AYU, holiday stl	16 to 18 May	104	--	22-06	22-07	05-10	11-18	14-17	14-17	14-17
Zimbabwe – Z21GF; by ZS6AYU, holiday stl	19 to 23 May	97	--	23-06	22-06	17-10	11-18	13-17	14-17	14-17
Malawi – 7QNL; by PA3FYM	18 May–10 June	90	00-05	23-05	23-05	19-09	05-00	15-22	16-21	16-21
So. Cook Is – E51AVE, KJW, etc., JA team	22 to 31 May	246	04-12	02-13	02-13	17-13	17-07	17-05	17-04	17-04
Tonga – A35JP/p; by JA0RQV	31 May–08 June	253	05-12	03-13	03-13	17-13	17-13	18-07	18-04	18-05

Updated 30 April based on the 28 April *The Weekly DX*, the 30 April *QRZ DX*, and the NG3K DX Page, <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.

-- APRIL SOLAR ACTIVITY --

The Solar Flux ranged from 118 to 184, with a mean value of 144.3 (vs. 125.0 for April 2013 and 113.2 for April 2012), and the A_p index was ≥ 7 on 14 days. The sunspot number through 29 April ranged from 46 to 296, with a mean of 132.3. One X-class, three M-class and 224 C-class flares occurred through 29 April.

Quiet conditions generally prevailed other than some disturbed conditions 04-05, 07, 17-21, 24-25 and 29-30 April.

-- MAY FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at low levels with a slight chance for M-class (R1-R2 (Minor-Moderate)) flare activity for 01-04 May and 20-24 May. Solar activity is expected to be at low levels with a chance for M-class flare activity for 05-19 May due to the return of old Regions 2035 and 2036.

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 for 01-05 May due to a solar wind enhancement associated with the negative polarity coronal hole high speed stream (CH HSS).

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux is expected to be at normal to moderate levels for the remainder of the period.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be quiet to unsettled for 14-15 May, 21-22 May and 26-27 May. Predominately quiet geomagnetic field activity is expected for the remainder of the month, barring any unforeseeable transient features.

The Solar Flux should range from 115 to 150, and average 135.8 during May.

(From *NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 28 April 2014, *NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 28 April 2014, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 28 April 2014.)

-- JUST A THOUGHT --

It's plain to see in the tabulation above that summer propagation reduces the potential for 10- and 12-meter activity and the longer daylight hours shorten the openings on the low bands.

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING MAY

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
Ten-Ten Spring CW Contest	0001Z 03 May 2359Z 04 May	10 Meters Only CW Only	Members of 10-10 International	Calls, name, 10-10 #, state
ARI (Italian) International DX Contest	1200Z 03 May 1159Z 04 May	160 – 10 Meters SSB, CW, Digital	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T). Serial
Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest	1200Z 10 May 1200Z 11 May	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial, CQ Zone
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z 10 May 1200Z 11 May	160 – 10 Meters SSB, CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), Serial
Portuguese Navy Day	1500Z 10 May 1500Z 11 May	80 – 10 Meters SSB, CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), Serial, CQ Zone
FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z 10 May 2100Z 10 May	80 – 10 Meters CW Only	Members of FISTS	RST, S/P/C, name, power
50 MHz Spring Sprint	2300Z 10 May 0300Z 11 May	6 Meters Only SSB, CW, Digital	Anyone Anywhere	6-character Grid Square
Portuguese Navy Day	0800Z 17 May 2359Z 17 May	80 - 10 Meters Digital Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial, CQ Zone
His Majesty King of Spain Contest	1200Z 17 May 1200Z 18 May	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
CQ World Wide WPX Contest	0000Z 24 May 2359Z 25 May	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial

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: State QSO Parties are not shown. See above references for such information.

-- PERTINENT TO PEACH'S --



Gil – February 1966 QST

Kinda like the "wham-bam!" when the flames shot out of the coffee maker circuitry at Peach's a week or so ago.

-- AND A PEACH STATE PROJECT --



Up at his Georgia QTH, Dave Gill-K4JDG put together a new Spider Beam, pushed it up to 35', and he's working DX from the Peach State. Who knows, if Dave has more DXing fun up yonder, we might see less of him—which certainly isn't a positive option for us.

(Ed note: Looks like nice horseback country.)

A common mistake people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools. – Douglas Adams

---000---

-- SHARKS TOOTH FESTIVAL SIGHTS --



What's a Festival without live entertainment, and a number of local groups were on the stage every day and evening.



What's a Festival without some good ol' tasty Southern BBQ?



What's a Sharks Tooth Festival with a sharks jaw? That's one mean looking set of teeth, for sure!!

(TNX Don Watson-K9DDO for these Festival photos.)

Look ahead or you won't get ahead.

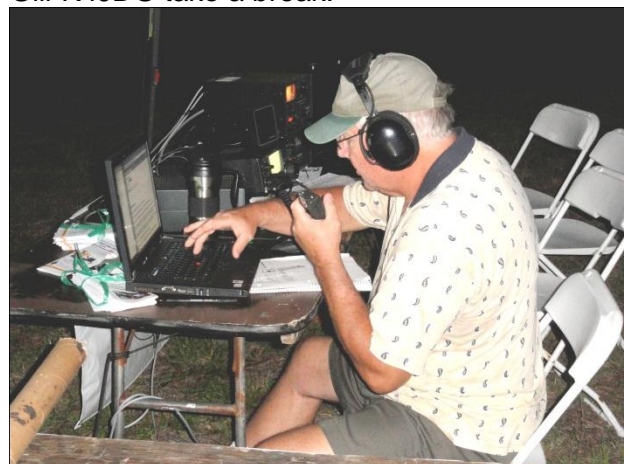
-- K4S ACTIVITIES --



Roger Schmitt-KY4RS worked the on-site station in addition to PSK31 from his home station. Here he's raking in the calls while Dennis Leach-KG4SBG logs and Steve Lawrence-K9ARH supervises the action.



San Yoder-K3SY logs while Dexter Atkinson-KB1FY racks up the stations calling K4S. Meanwhile, Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI and Dave Gill-K4JDG take a break.



The night shift. Dave Gill-K4JDG did a solo effort from K4S on Friday and Saturday nights. Gotta admire that dedication!

May 2014

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

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

The Communicator is a monthly publication
Of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Editor: Jack Sproat-W4JS
Circulation: San Yoder-K3SY

2013 TARC Officers

President: Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI
V. President: Andy Durette-KB1HIP
Secretary: Jack Sproat-W4JS
Treasurer: Dave Gill-K4JDG
Directors: Bob Avrutik-N1RA
Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO
Conrad Owens-WA3RRS
San Yoder-K3SY