



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>



-- NOVEMBER 2013 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

It must be getting close to the end of the month. Jack-W4JS was jabbing me at Peach's this morning for the November Message. Ah, the responsibilities of office. I have decided to let the SDR group have a rest this month and address instead all of you about this great endeavor called Ham Radio.

Ours is a very simple pastime with so very few avenues to follow for enjoyment. Let's see, there's CW, SSB, AM and FM; to which we might add VHF and UHF, and let's not forget MICROWAVE & DIGITAL. Then we add a smattering of SSTV, ATV, EME, SATELLITES, RTTY, PSK, AMTOR, PACTOR, GTOR, and APRS. Last but not least is the challenge to incorporate all of these into a GO Bag for emergency response activities. I know we've all got such a compilation of gear ready to put to use at a minute's notice. Plus, lest I am reprimanded for forgetting equipment and antenna design and construction, may I slide those additional factors into the conversation?

I know some of our members have been enjoying this mundane and boring pastime for well over 60 years, but is anyone able to say that he/she has worked all the above modes and methods? So, what's keeping you from being more fully involved? Any of the above can be your avenue to more enjoyment and support of this truly great pastime. Don't forget the clock keeps ticking.

And, speaking of the clock, don't forget to turn your clock back the night of Saturday 02 November when Daylight Saving Time finally comes to a close.

VY 73 to All de Fred-KJ4TNI

-- NOVEMBER MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **13 November 2013** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB will offer a program entitled "Life Before Radio?". Hmmmmm.

-- CU CABLE STOLEN FROM TOWER --

(Obviously many people are still in need of some money in our destitute economy.)

Agriculture deputies are asking for the public's help in a Grand Theft investigation in which copper cable was taken from a communications tower.

At approximately 5:20 pm, on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, a white male, on a small ATV, entered the Hall Communications Radio Tower property located at 922 Cypress Parkway, Haines City. Once inside the site, the subject removed copper ground wires from all six anchor sites of the tower's guy cables. The subject removed approximately 60 feet of insulated copper cable.

Video surveillance captured an image of the suspect. The suspect is described as being bald or having a shaved haircut with a pair of glasses pushed up on his head. He wore a dark blue tank style shirt and long blue shorts.

Anyone with information about this investigation is urged to contact Detective Jeff Jones at 863.534.7205, 863.226.9159 or 863.298.6200.

(From Haines City, Florida – Polk County Sheriff's Office)

-- FCC DENIES 10-M PETITION --

The FCC has turned away a petition by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association to allow Technician Class hams to use 10-meter FM repeaters, i.e., allowing Techs to transmit between 29.5 and 29.7 MHz, the repeater subband, in addition to their current 28.0-28.5 MHz privileges.

In an unusually-quick response, the FCC said no, noting that Techs may already use VHF or UHF inputs that are linked to many 10-meter repeaters, and that Technicians who really want to use 10-meter repeaters may easily upgrade to General Class by taking only a 35-question written exam.

(From CQ Newsroom, 28 October 2013)

TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of the Meeting

09 October 2013

Due to the partial US Government shutdown, the Coast Guard Auxiliary training facility was not available, such that this meeting was held in the computer lab room of the Jacaranda Public Library. President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Introductions were then made all around.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 11 September meeting as published in the October issue of *The Communicator*. Bob Avrutik-N1RA so moved, seconded by Pat Marx-KA8MMG, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Nothing sent or received during the month.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Don Jansen reported that the starting balance was \$3581.95. Receipts were \$10.00 from the September 50/50 and a \$10.00 donation from Pat-KA8MMG, totaling \$20.00. Expenses were \$12.93 to Birch Communications for Internet service. The 30 September balance was \$3589.02. Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Bob-N1RA, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – (NOTE: In error, no report was given when, in fact, Jack-W4JS had been advised that Bruce Brown-WA8IQF was scheduled for eye surgery on 07 October. Subsequently, that surgery was rescheduled for 21 October. However, Bruce entered the Gwinnett Medical Center for congestive heart failure, anxiety and stress, and was released 13 October.)

VE TESTING – No inquiries from potential candidates regarding our 12 October VE session.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Both repeaters are operational as long as the digital machinegun isn't present.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – The latest roster shows 56 paid members, two student members and three life members for a total of 61 members.

NET OPERATIONS – Poor turnout remains the norm.

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 19 members, spouses and friends at the 02 October Chapter 53 lunch at Denny's in Sarasota.

OLD BUSINESS – Fred asked if there was any follow up regarding short technical presentations at our meetings. Guenther-AJ4QX replied that while there had been some informal discus-

sions along that line, there is not yet any organization of subjects, presenters, etc.

NEW BUSINESS – Fred asked for a show of hands for those interested in a Christmas party at the home of Joy Klapp-N2WUD, as we have enjoyed in the past. The response was unanimous.

Our Annual Election of officers will be held at our 11 December meeting. Fred appointed Guenter-AJ4QX and Jim Murdock-KG4KOT as the Nominating Committee. New candidates are needed for President and Treasurer.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – None.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn at 7:12 PM was made by Bob-N1RA, seconded by Bill Nesbitt-KK4PPA, and passed. There were 15 members present.

PROGRAM – San Yoder-K3SY offered a very informative program, based on his professional experiences, on Lightning Arrestors and Surge Protection.

Jack Sproat-W4JS, Secretary



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
Afghanistan – T6RH; by N3HU	Now to 02 Dec	26	22-03	20-04	20-04	12-15	13-14	1330	NO	NO
Senegal – 6V7S; by RK4FF	Now to 27 Nov	87	21-08	20-10	19-09	12-23	12-22	13-21	14-20	15-19
Solomon Is – H44MS; by DL2GAC	Now to 26 Nov	275	07-13	05-14	06-14	13-01	18-01	19-00	19-23	20-22
Falkland Is – VP8DNY; by M1AYI ++	Now to 19 Nov	165	00-09	23-10	22-09	12-01	13-00	13-23	15-22	17-19
Uganda – 5X1NH; by G3RWF	Now to 16 Nov	77	22-04	21-05	21-05	15-00	12-22	13-21	14-20	15-18
Angola – D2CT; by CT2HPM, PSK/RTTY	Now to 15 Nov	96	--	--	--	13-00	12-22	12-22	13-20	14-19
Sierra Leone – 9L1BTB; by SP5BTB	Now to 10 Nov	91	22-08	20-09	20-08	12-00	12-23	13-22	14-20	16-18
South Cook Is – E51NOU; by N7OU **	Now to 09 Nov	246	04-13	03-14	03-14	15-01	16-00	17-00	17-23	19-22
Cape Verde – D44TXT; 2-Op team	Now to 07 Nov	89	22-09	19-11	18-02	12-00	13-22	14-20	15-19	15-19
Austral Is – TX5RV; 2-Op team **	Now to 06 Nov	239	03-12	02-13	01-14	15-02	15-01	16-00	17-23	19-21
Ogasawara – JD1BON; SSB, CW, RTTY	01 to 04 Nov	317	07-13	06-14	06-14	13-01	21-00	21-23	21-23	2200
Easter Is – XR0YY; by 7 Op team, all modes	01 to 07 Nov	208	01-12	23-13	23-14	12-01	13-01	14-00	15-23	17-22
Vietnam – XV2CNH; by JA6CNH	01 to 09 Nov	348	10-12	09-13	11-13	12-00	14-16	14-15	14-15	15-16
San Andres Is – HK0??; by 12 Op team	01 to 10 Nov	177	19-15	00-24	12-07	13-00	14-23	15-21	17-20	17-20
Vanuatu – YJ0ZS; by 4 Op team, all modes	01 to 11 Nov	262	06-12	05-14	05-14	13-00	18-01	19-00	19-23	21-22
New Caledonia – FK/F5IRO; **	01 to 30 Nov	258	07-13	06-14	05-14	13-18	18-01	19-00	21-23	21-22
Vietnam – XV2NHL; by JA3NHL	02 to 08 Nov	348	10-12	09-13	11-13	12-00	14-16	14-15	14-15	15-16
Niue – E6AA, AK & AY; all modes	03 to 09 Nov	252	05-12	04-13	03-14	13-01	16-01	17-00	18-23	19-22
Wake Is – K9W; Team op, all modes	03 to 15 Nov	297	05-13	04-14	03-15	13-01	19-01	19-00	20-22	20-22
Reunion Is – TO2R; by F5UOW **	03 to 17 Nov	91	--	21-03	21-03	17-00	12-23	13-21	13-18	14-16
Mayotte – FH/DK9PY; **	04 to 11 Nov	85	22-03	21-04	20-04	15-00	12-23	13-21	13-18	15-17
Cape Verde – D44TWQ; by G4IRN	05 to 12 Nov	89	22-09	19-11	18-02	12-00	13-22	14-20	15-19	15-19
Banaba Is – T33A; Team op, all modes	05 to 18 Nov	278	05-13	05-14	04-14	13-01	14-01	14-01	19-23	19-22
Ogasawara – JD1BLC; by JP1IOF, all modes	07 to 15 Nov	317	07-13	06-14	06-14	13-01	21-00	21-23	21-23	2200
Juan Fernandez – XR0ZR; Team op/all modes	08 to 20 Nov	177	00-10	22-12	22-12	12-02	13-00	13-23	14-22	15-21
Rwanda – 9X0PY; by SM6CPY **	11 to 18 Nov	81	--	--	--	15-00	12-23	13-20	13-19	15-17
Reunion – FR/DK9PY; **	11 to 22 Nov	91	22-02	21-03	21-03	17-00	12-23	13-21	13-19	14-17
Seychelles – S79WDX; by I0WDX	12 to 23 Nov	68	22-02	21-04	20-04	14-00	12-23	13-21	13-19	14-17
American Samoa – W8A; Team op **	12 to 22 Nov	256	05-13	04-14	03-14	13-02	16-01	17-00	17-23	18-22
South Sudan – Z81X; Team op, focus 80 m	14 to 28 Nov	74	22-04	21-06	20-06	12-00	13-22	13-21	13-21	14-19
Samoa – 5W7A, etc.; Team op, all modes	16 to 17 Nov	257	05-13	04-14	04-14	12-02	16-01	17-01	17-23	18-22
Madagascar – 5R8IC; by F6ICX **	16 Nov – 15 Dec	90	22-03	21-04	21-04	17-00	12-23	12-22	13-21	14-17
Burkina Faso – XT26DJ, XT2FCJ	17 to 26 Nov	83	22-07	20-08	19-09	12-00	12-23	12-22	13-21	14-20
Cote d'Ivoire – TU5AX, XV & NK	17 to 30 Nov	90	22-07	20-09	19-09	12-00	12-23	12-22	13-21	14-20
Swaziland – 3DA0ET; 12 Op team	18 to 27 Nov	106	22-04	21-05	21-05	17-00	12-23	12-22	13-20	13-20
Togo – 5V7TH; by ON6DX, all modes	18 Nov – 03 Dec	87	--	20-08	19-07	12-23	--	--	--	--
Bangladesh – S21ZBC, S21ZBB; 20 op team	19 to 29 Nov	8	22-01	21-02	20-02	12-18	13-16	13-16	13-16	NO
Rwanda – 9X0NH; by G3RWF	19 to 29 Nov	81	22-04	21-06	20-06	15-00	12-23	13-20	13-19	14-18
Lakshadweep Is – VU7AG/VU7KA; Team op	20 Nov – 10 Dec	36	22-02	21-03	21-03	12-23	13-22	13-21	14-20	15-18
Benin – TY1??; by ON6DX, all modes	20 Nov – 03 Dec	85	--	20-08	19-08	12-00	12-23	13-21	14-20	15-19
Rotuma – 3D2R; Team op, all modes	22 to 29 Nov	263	05-13	05-14	04-14	13-01	17-01	17-01	18-00	19-23
Micronesia – V63DX, V63ZF	22 to 30 Nov	293	06-13	05-14	05-14	13-01	14-01	20-23	20-23	20-22
Samoa – 5W8A; Team op **	27 Nov – 02 Dec	257	05-13	04-14	04-14	12-02	16-01	17-01	17-23	17-22
East Kiribati – T32TM; by NL8F	28 Nov – 03 Dec	267	03-13	02-14	01-14	16-01	16-01	16-00	17-23	19-23
West Kiribati – T30TS, T30NK; all modes	28 Nov – 04 Dec	277	--	04-14	04-15	12-00	18-01	18-00	18-00	19-23
Fiji – 3D2AD, OV & FW; all modes	29 Nov – 04 Dec	258	06-13	05-14	04-14	12-01	14-01	17-01	18-00	19-23
Senegal – 6V7D; by DL7VOA **	29 Nov – 07 Dec	87	21-09	20-09	18-09	12-23	13-22	13-21	14-20	15-18

Updated 30 October based on the 28 October *The Weekly DX*, the 30 October *QRZ DX*, and the NG3K Contest/DX Page, <http://www.ng3k.com>
Notes: Time in bold = the 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.

-- NOVEMBER FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at moderate levels through 06 Nov, with predominantly low levels until around 11 Nov. Moderate activity should then increase until 20 Nov, when activity returns to low levels until 30 Nov.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at normal to moderate levels through 10 Nov, increasing to moderate to high levels 11 – 18 Nov due to CME effects. Normal to moderate levels are expected until 30 Nov.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at quiet levels 01 – 09 Nov. Quiet to unsettled conditions are expected 10 – 13 Nov, with predominantly quiet conditions through 30 Nov.

The Solar Flux should range from 105 to 155 and average 130.8 during November.

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

Remember, "DX IS!!"

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING NOVEMBER

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
Ukrainian DX Contest	02 Nov 1200Z 03 Nov 1200Z	160 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), Serial
Himalayan Contest	02 Nov 1200Z 03 Nov 1200Z	80 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Stations in India	RS(T), Power
ARRL November Sweepstakes	02 Nov 2100Z 04 Nov 0259Z	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	USA and VE stations, www.arrl.org/contests	See web site for details
DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"	03 Nov 1100Z 03 Nov 1700Z	10 Meters Only Digital modes	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, Serial
Worked All Europe DX Contest	09 Nov 0000Z 10 Nov 2400Z	80 – 10 Meters Digital modes	See www.waedc.de for QTC rules	RST, Serial
10-10 Fall Digital QSO Party	09 Nov 0001Z 10 Nov 2359Z	10 Meters Only Digital modes	Members of 10 -10 International	Call, Name, S/P/C
Japan International DX Contest	09 Nov 0700Z 10 Nov 1300Z	80 – 10 Meters SSB Only	Japanese Stations	RS, CQ Zone (5)
OK-OM DX Contest	09 Nov 1200Z 10 Nov 1200Z	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	Stations in Czech and Slovak republics	RST, Serial
Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon	09 Nov 1200Z 10 Nov 2359Z	80 – 10 Meters Straight Key CW	SKCC members	RST,S/P/C,.name "none" power
Bulgarian DX Contest	16 Nov 1200Z 17 Nov 1200Z	80 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	Anyone, Anywhere	RS(T), ITU Zone (8)
ARRL November Sweepstakes	16 Nov 2100Z 18 Nov 0259Z	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	USA and VE stations, www.arrl.org/contests	See web site for details
CQ WW SSB Contest	23 Nov 0000Z 24 Nov 2359Z	80 – 10 Meters CW Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RS, CQ Zone (5)
SKCC Straight Key Sprint	27 Nov 0000Z 27 Nov 0200Z	160 – 6 Meters Straight Key CW	SKCC members	RST, S/P/C,.name "none", power

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 are not shown. See above references for information.

-- SURFACE MOUNT COMPONENTS --

We've heard the term "surface mount" with regard to the compact electronics of today, but very few of us have ever experienced working with such components and technology. The Peaberry V2 SDR reviewed in the November QST is a \$149 transceiver kit that uses surface mount technology. Rich Greenberg-N6LRT came across a YouTube site that shows how small these components can be and how intricate the procedures are for soldering them. If you're thinking of the Peaberry V2 kit, see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NN7UGWYmBY> Meanwhile, be thankful to those Japanese and Chinese hands that are building our equipment.

-- ARRL CENTENNIAL --

It seems that the ARRL's dream of being allowed to use the call sign W100AW during 2014, to commemorate the League's centennial, hit a bureaucratic stonewall with the FCC. While W1AW/portable will be on the air twice from all

50 states during 2014, with a special WAS certificate being available, and a year-long ARRL Centennial QSO Party is planned, there's no mention of the call sign W100AW being implemented. When one considers some of the exotic special event call signs recently issued in many other nations (e.g., LZ1795WZM, ZM90DX, 9A282N, HP500OP, CR5150NM, G100RSGB [for the centennial of the RSGB], 8N6MMTTY, ATBSG13, ad infinitum), the FCC's denial kinda smacks one in the face here in the self-proclaimed "land of the free."



November 2013

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 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	QCWA Lunch @ Denny's In Sarasota 11:15 AM	TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	TARC VE Session @ 10:00 AM, Venice Library
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	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	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		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	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr		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 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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