



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>



-- NOVEMBER 2015 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

October was an unexpectedly busy month. By that I mean that, with very short notice, we supplied equipment and a lot of time to the local Boy Scouts to allow their participation in the annual international Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). The Scouts were involved with the Sun Festiva event in the Centennial Park in downtown Venice. Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO was contacted just three weeks before the event, so it was a bit of a hassle to find a spot to set up a station and be assured of power, since the Festiva folks knew nothing about this until three days before the event.

We persevered and found a great spot for the boys to operate and with the club's transceiver, Jim Shortill's amp, the ham stick antenna from Ken KK4IGK and a push up telescoping mast from Andy Durette-KB1HIP, we got a station on the air and operated from 10:00 AM until 7:00 PM Saturday. This was enough for some seven or eight Scouts to obtain their Merit Badges.

On a light note, a recent breakfast discussion on placing a pulley on top of a new tilt-over device for a vertical antenna began at 6:15 AM and lasted until about 7:45 AM. Now that's dedication. (Just think of what discussion would be involved if dealt with use of a gin pole to erect 80' of Rohn 55.)

I know it's kind of early, but a HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL.

VY 73 de Fred-KJ4TNI

-- JOTA PARTICIPATION --

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) is an annual international event wherein ham radio stations are activated so that Scouts have a means to talk to other scouts. The TARC was approached about three weeks prior to this year's 16-18 October JOTA, requesting assistance for the local Scouts. President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI made this a subject at our 14 October meeting, and numerous members volunteered to help.



Scoutmaster John Patrick-N9OU explains the equipment to these twin brothers. TARC furnished its IC-746 xcvr, Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO furnished his Ameritron 500-watt linear, Ken Magill-KK4IGK supplied the 20-meter Ham Stick dipole, which went atop the push up fiberglass mast of Andy Durette-KB1HIP. The station managed to exchange QSOs with a number of stateside stations, with a station in Aruba being their DX contact.

Other TARC members lending assistance were Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI and San Yoder-K3SY.

-- NOVEMBER MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **11 November 2015** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. The program has not been determined at "press time" but Program Director Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB will undoubtedly have something to offer of interest to all.

-- DON'T FORGET THE TIME CHANGE --

Standard Time returns at 2 AM Sunday 01 November, so before you go to bed Saturday night, turn your clocks **BACK** one hour. We'll be on Standard Time until 13 March 2016, just 4.5 months later.

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the Meeting
14 October 2015**

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a flag pledge. Introductions were then made all around, with Joe Thiel-WA1VNP from Venice being a visitor.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 09 September meeting as published in the October issue of *The Communicator*. Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX so moved, seconded by Larry Bryan-W8LIG, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Not exactly correspondence, but Jack Sproat-W4JS showed off six certificates he had recently been awarded for both DX and stateside special event operations.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer San Yoder reported that the starting balance was \$4678.07. Receipts were \$15 for dues, \$13 from the September 50/50, and a \$14 donation, for a total of \$42.00. There were no expenses during September such that the closing balance was \$4720.07. Gary Hagens-K6OC moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Glenn Hyde-N4MXQ, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – Nothing known.

VE TESTING – We had no candidates at our 10 October VE session.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Both the 146.805 and 444.100 machines are operating satisfactorily, however, some “noise” is experienced at times.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – San Yoder-K3SY reported that we have 53 regular members, one complimentary member, eight student members and four life members for a total of 66 members.

NET OPERATIONS – Fred reminded all of our 440 and 2-meter nets, and hopes that more members will make an effort to check in.

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 27 members and spouses at our 07 October lunch at Denny's on Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota. This was an excellent turnout for our first meeting/lunch of the 2015-2016 season. Don Watson-K9DDO offered a video recognizing the 100th anniversary of Marconi's first transatlantic communication. All are welcome—the first Wednesday of each month around 11:15 AM.

OLD BUSINESS – Nothing carried over.

NEW BUSINESS – 1) Fred asked Andy Durette-KB1HIP to describe the Disaster Amateur Radio Network (DARN) nets to the members. This net, which is sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Venice, meets at 11 AM the second Monday of each month. There are eight stations set up from Bradenton all the way to Naples including Sarasota, Venice, Port Charlotte, Ft Myers, Arcadia and Immokalee, utilizing several 2-meter repeaters for coverage. Also an Echolink Net meets at 8 PM on Mondays. Participation in these operations by TARC members is encouraged.

2) Fred recognized David Levey-W4/2E0UAY for his donation of a portable triband beam and tripod to the Club, and asked that a Thank You letter be sent to David.

3) Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO advised that Scouts in the Venice area will be participating in the worldwide Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) activity on 17 October from Centennial Park in downtown Venice as part of the Sun Festiva event. Support by TARC members would be appreciated.

4) Fred noted that some of the fence around the Coast Guard HF antenna is in disrepair and made a motion that the Club allocate \$100 for materials for repair by volunteer members. Seconded by Al Culbert-K0AL and passed.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – None

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn was made at 7:30 PM by Al Culbert-K0AL, seconded by Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO, and passed. There were 20 members and one visitor present.

PROGRAM – Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB offered a short power point presentation relative to “who” first developed wireless transmissions and reception, and Don Watson-K9DDO provided a video commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Marconi's transatlantic broadcasts.

Jack Sproat-W4JS; Acting 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
Chad – TT8AMO; by HB9AMO,** holiday	Now to 15 Nov	73	22-05	21-07	21-07	18-21	16-20	16-18	16-18	16-18
Micronesia – V63AH; by DL2AH, SSB	Now to 10 Nov	293	--	06-14	13-14	13-16	14-16	1500	NO	NO
Tonga – A35OK, A35OL; CW, SSB	Now to 10 Nov	253	05-12	04-14	12-15	00-17	19-21	19-21	19-22	2100
Fernando de Noronha – PY0NY	Now to 05 Nov	115	--	19-11	12-00	13-21	15-20	16-19	16-20	NO
East Kiribati – T32DX; 3 ops, verticals	Now to 03 Nov	267	--	02-14	00-01	16-23	17-21	17-20	18-20	NO
Mozambique – C91B; 1 kw, CW, SSB	Now to 03 Nov	101	22-03	21-05	21-00	19-21	18-20	18-20	1800	NO
Palau – T88ZE, T88KK, T88SH; 160m-6m	30 Oct – 05 Nov	307	08-12	07-13	13-14	14-16	15-17	1600	NO	NO
Vietnam – 3W3MD; 20 ops, 5 stations	31 Oct – 10 Nov	348	1130	11-12	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Madagascar – 5R8IC; by F6ICX** + SSB,R,Y	01 Nov – 12 Dec	90	--	22-03	22-00	20-22	21-22	20-21	NO	NO
Vanuatu – YJ0BJ; by VK2BJ, 80m-6m	02 to 16 Nov	262	06-12	05-14	12-14	13-17	14-18	20-22	2100	NO
Vietnam – 3W4VE, 3W4VX; all modes, holi	04 to 11 Nov	348	1130	11-12	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Kenya – 5Z4HW; 5 ops, 160m-6m, all modes	04 to 18 Nov	76	23-03	22-04	23-03	19-22	19-21	20-21	NO	NO
Ascension Is – ZD8W; by W6NV	06 Nov – 04 Dec	108	22-07	20-09	19-00	13-22	14-20	16-19	15-20	17-18
Cyprus – 5B/ON4BCV; holiday style	08 to 15 Nov	47	22-05	21-07	19-00	13-17	14-15	14-15	NO	NO
South Cook Is – E51KIK; by G0KIK	09 to 15 Nov	246	04-12	02-14	03-14	16-00	17-23	18-21	19-21	19-21
Micronesia – V63GG; by JR2GAG, 160m-6m	09 to 16 Nov	293	07-12	06-14	06-14	14-15	14-16	14-15	2100	NO
Malta – 9H3YY; by DL2JRM, all modes	13 to 16 Nov	55	22-07	19-09	18-00	13-19	14-17	15-17	15-16	15-16
Willis Is – VK9WA; 7 ops, CW, SSB, RTTY	14 to 23 Nov	271	08-13	07-14	06-14	14-17	14-18	14-19	1600	NO
Seychelles – S79C; 6 ops, perhaps 6m	15 to 23 Nov	68	--	22-03	NO	20-04	21-00	NO	NO	NO
Rwanda – 9X0NH; by G3RWF	18 Nov – 02 Dec	81	22-04	21-05	23-03	19-21	20-21	2000	NO	NO
Reunion Is – FR/OH2YL; **	22 Nov – 01 Dec	91	23-01	22-02	23-01	20-22	20-22	2100	NO	NO
Vietnam – XV2D; by SM6LRR, all modes	23 Nov – 03 Dec	348	1130	11-12	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Easter Is – CE0Y/RZ3FW, CE0Y/R4WAA	24 Nov – 02 Dec	208	01-12	23-13	22-14	13-00	15-21	15-21	18-20	17-21
Tuvalu – T2TT; 5 US ops	24 Nov – 03 Dec	267	05-13	04-14	12-15	18-23	18-22	19-21	19-21	2000

Updated 28 October based on the 26 October *The Weekly DX*, the 28 October *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.

-- OCTOBER SOLAR ACTIVITY --

Through 30 October the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 80 to 129, with a mean value of 103.6 (vs. 153.7 for October 2014 and 132.0 for October 2013), and the A_p index was ≥ 7 on 25 days. Through 30 October, the sunspot number ranged from 11 to 101, with a mean of 59.1.

Space weather during October ranged from quiet to active with nine M-class and 188 C-class flares through the 30th. Severe geomagnetic disturbances from multiple CMEs peaked the A_p to 154 on 07 October and 67 on 08 October.

-- NOVEMBER FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at low levels throughout November.

No proton events are expected.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at moderate to high levels 01-13 November as a series of CH HSS become geoeffective. Normal to moderate levels are expected the remainder of the month.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to reach G2 (Moderate) storm levels on 03-04 and 30 November, with G1 (Minor) storm levels expected on 05, 08-10, and 14 due to recurrent CH HSSs. Active field conditions are expected 06-07, 13, 17, and 25 November with only quiet to

unsettled levels throughout the rest of the month.

The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 85 to 120 and average 98.5 during November.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 26 October 2015, NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table, 26 October 2015, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 26 October 2015.)

-- V73D TEAM IN ACTION --



Several members of the 12-man German team which operated 13-28 October from Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands, giving out some 64,800 Q's on CW, SSB and RTTY to "The Deserving." A great operation with excellent operators!

(TNX <http://www.dx-world.net/>)

If you don't program yourself, life will program you.

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING NOVEMBER 2015

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon			Ukrainian DX Contest			DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest		
07 Nov 1200Z	08 Nov 2359Z		07 Nov 1200Z	08 Nov 1200Z		08 Nov 1100Z	08 Nov 1700Z	
1.8-28	50	CW	1.8-28	--	CW, SSB	28	--	Digital
RST, Serial, Name, mbr or "none"			RS(T), Serial			RST, Serial		
www.skccgroup.com			www.urdx.org/rules.php?english			www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport		
WAE DX Contest, RTTY			JIDX Phone Contest			OK/OM Contest, CW		
14 Nov 0000Z	15 Nov 2359Z		14 Nov 0700Z	15 Nov 1300Z		14 Nov 1200Z	15 Nov 1200Z	
3.5-28	--	RTTY	3.5-28	--	SSB	1.8-28	--	CW
RS, Serial			RS, CQ Zone			RST, Serial		
www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest			www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html			www.okom.crk.cz/index.php?page=english		
LZ DX Contest			SKCC Sprint			CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW		
21 Nov 1200Z	22 Nov 1200Z		25 Nov 0000Z	25 Nov 0200Z		28 Nov 0000Z	29 Nov 2359Z	
3.5-28	--	CW, SSB	1.8-28	--	CW	1.8-28	--	CW
RS(T), Serial			RST, SPC, Name, mbr or power			RST, CQ Zone		
http://lzdxb.fra.org/rulesen.html			www.skccgroup.com			www.dqww.com/rules.htm		

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_1510.pdf for the complete list of the 57 contests/sprints/QSO parties/etc. that will be held during October.

-- WHY GET INTO HAM RADIO? --

Why get into ham radio today when you can talk around the world via telephone or the Internet? What's the attraction?

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) has addressed this line of thinking with a very great video which you can look at via https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8x6x_6mDVIQ. The video mentions the usual things: learning about technology, learning about people in other parts of the world, disaster communications, hidden transmitter hunts, etc.



One of the young UK hams in the video

In addition, space communications is discussed, ranging from talking via satellites to talking with those aboard the ISS and to building small satellites. As the narrator says, there are "hundreds of ways to have techie fun" with ham radio.

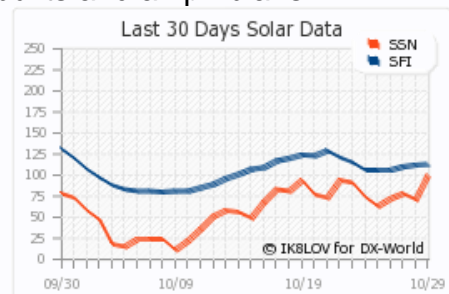
While shown, but not discussed in depth, are the educational opportunities. That can apply both ways: Learning what's needed to pass the exam(s), and for old timers working with young folks it can be very rewarding—and they usually learn something too.

(TNX to Tony-N2MFT, President, Mid Florida DX Association for that heads up.)

-- IN AND ON THE AIR --



Al Culbert-KØAL is now feeling right at home, what with his beautiful 1950 Cessna 170A hangered at the Venice Airport, and his 80' tower up with an Optibeam and 40-meter rotating dipole making waves in the ether from his Nokomis "radio home." Al participated in the 10 October Buchan Airport Fly-In down in Englewood, in company with several dozen other tail draggers, home-builts and amphibians.



November 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 @ 11:30 AM, 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 TARC Meeting @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center	12 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	13 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	14 TARC VE Session 10 AM Venice Public Library
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 Okeechobee ARC Hamfest 11655 US 441 SE
29	30					05 Dec Silver Springs RC Hamfest Nat. Guard Armory, 900 SW 20 th St, Ocala

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

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1419 E. MANASOTA BEACH ROAD
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The Communicator is a monthly publication
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