

THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of the TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Incorporated 30 November 1984 – Venice, Florida Mailing Address: P. O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274 W4AC Repeaters – 444.100 MHz(DMR) &146.805 MHz(-) both w/100 Hz PL Web Site – http://tamiamiarc.org



-- NOVEMBER 2016 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

In my last president's message I discussed some possible things that the club could be doing to make It more interesting to be part of. I mentioned quite a few possibilities for discussion at the next meeting. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the October meeting and those items were not brought up for discussion.

A new item that I would like to discuss is the club dues. As you recall the dues were raised several years ago from \$15 to \$25 per year. The reason given at the time was to make sure we had enough money coming in to pay the rent for the repeater tower. In July 2014 Jon Cole granted TARC the use of the tower at the Paul Morris Drive site at no charge as long as Jon owned the site and TARC performed some maintenance of the site. As such, there are a few thoughts that need further discussion: Since the treasury has sufficient funds to operate for years, since our expenses are minimal, we could reduce the dues back to \$15 per year which seems to be the going rate for the local radio clubs. That may attract more new members. Another option that I like is to keep the dues as is, but award a yearly \$ 500 (or maybe \$1000) scholarship to a high school student who is a ham and wants to pursue an engineering degree. The scholarship would not only help the recipient but also would give us much needed publicity for the club thus helping with our recruiting activity.

We have some good news to share. San Yoder, K3SY, has volunteered to take over the publication of the TARC newsletter starting this coming January as Jack Sproat, W4JS, is retiring from that position. Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ, has volunteered to take over the Treasurer's position replacing San. I am pleased that San and Frank have stepped up to support the club. I also want to congratulate and thank Guenther Henning, AJ4QX, for joining not only the Board of Directors but also the Repeater Committee.

VY 73 to All de Andy-KB1HIP

-- NOVEMBER MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **09 November 2016** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB will offer a program on "Reverse Beacons." Rather than broadcasting, these reverse beacons report how they are hearing stations on the air. Interesting!!

-- TOWER WORK AT KOAL --



Ron LeBrun-KB4RON replacing the rotator on the 80' Rohn 45 tower at the Radio Cottage of Al Culbert-K0AL.



The Optibeam and 40m rotary dipole are ready to get busy working DX. The bracket at the 70' height is for a gamma match so that Al can load up the tower on 160m.

Tamiami Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the Meeting 12 October 2016

Vice President Gary Hagens, K6OC, called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM with the pledge to the Flag. Introductions were made all around by name and call sign. There were 14 members and two visitors.

MINUTES: Vice President Hagens requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 14 September meeting as published in the Communicator. Motion was made, seconded and approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer San Yoder, K3Sy, reported a beginning balance of \$5,209.07, income of \$8.00 and an ending balance of \$5,217.07.

SUNSHINE: Ed Clark, K8ZM, called and chatted with Bob Avrutik, N1RA, last week. Ed reported that he was doing better and was recovering nicely from his illness. He said that he fired up his radio on 12 October and that that had been the first time since April. We look forward to Ed's full recovery.

VE TESTING: Jack Sproat, W4JS, reported three candidates came for testing. One took the Technician exam and passed, one expired Advanced took the Technician's test, passed and received a General class license, and one candidate took and passed the Extra class license exam.

LIAISON TO QCWA: Jack reported there were 31 Suncoast Chapter 53 members spouses and friends at the 5 October lunch at Denny's on Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota, FL. Hans Napfel, WB2ZZB, presented the after lunch program. Any and all are welcome to join us the first Wednesday of each month around 11:00 AM.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL: Both the 146.805 MHz analog repeater and the 444.10 digital repeater are operating satisfactorily.

MEMBERSHIP: San Yoder reported that the club had 51 regular members. 2017 dues will be able to be paid during the November meeting. Remember, if you invite a Ham or an interested person to the meeting you can earn an extra red ticket for the 50-50 drawing.

OLD BUSINESS: We need volunteers for the Tips and Tricks portion of our November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Nominations for Club Director and for a membership position for the Repeater Committee were requested. Guenther Henning, AJ4QX, volunteered for both positions. He was nomi-

nated and there being no other candidates, the Club approved his election to both positions.

- 2. THE COMMUNICATOR: Jack Sproat, W4JS, Editor of the Communicator, will be stepping down after the December issue. Our club needs a volunteer editor to step forward to continue publication of this excellent newsletter.
- **3.** Field Day: Field Day is always the last full weekend in June. This club has participated in past Field Day competitions, but not of late. After general discussion, the club agreed to participate in the 2017 Field Day and to invite new Hams, high school hams and any other interested parties to participate.
- 4. Publicity: To generate favorable publicity and to inform community groups and newcomers of the club, the members discussed copying past issues of The Communicator and setting up display stands at the Chamber of Commerce, the Library and at Fergusons Electronics. The estimated cost for 45 color based copies is \$220.00. By motion made, seconded and approved, the membership authorized the cost of duplication. Jim Shortill, KJ4NDO, will head this effort.
- 5. Christmas Party: All hands were in favor of a Christmas Party. Club Directors will discuss the Party during the October Director's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

The tips and Tricks presentation on microphone performance improvement was by Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ.

Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO Secretary

-- TARC EAGER EATERS --



Peach's opened up late the morning of 28 October, but the faithful showed their devoted patience, waited, and filled the tables. Then they filled their tummies.

"The important thing is to never stop questioning."

MAJOR CURRENT/UPCOMING DX ACTIVITY & PROPAGATION HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT and/or SCHEDULED DX ACTIVITY										
COUNTRY – CALL SIGN	ACTIVITY	BEAR-	EAR- HF BANDS and BEST OPENING TIMES (UTC)					C)		
COUNTRY - CALL SIGN	PERIOD	ING	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
So. Cook Is – E51RR by ZL1BQD, JT65 & 9	Now to 25 Nov	246		03-14		16-23		17-21		
Pitcairn Is – VP6AH by DL2AH, ++, digital	Now to 25 Nov	226	02-12	00-13	23-00	15-22	16-21	16-22	1900	NO
Burkina Faso – XT2AW by DF2WO, CW/dig	Now to 20 Nov	83	22-07	20-08	19-23	14-21	15-19	15-19	NO	NO
Benin – TY5AA by F6AJL, ++ 70 w/vertical	Now to 13 Nov	85	22-06	20-08	19-23	13-21	15-19	15-20	1700	NO
Tanzania – 5H3DX by NK8O, **	Now to 12 Nov	83	22-03	21-04	22-00	18-21	17-20	18-20	16-18	NO
Chatham Is – ZL7G by 7-op team, ** & RTY	Now to 09 Nov	230	06-12	04-13	03-14	06-09	22-00	NO	NO	NO
Samoa – 5W7X, 5W0ST, all modes	Now to 09 Nov	257	05-12	04-14	03-14	17-00	18-22	18-22	19-20	NO
Vietnam – 3W2DK by N0ODK, ++	Now to 05 Nov	348		No	Open	ings	Fore	cast		
Palau – T88AB by JR1UBR	02 to 08 Nov	307		07-13	07-14	14-17	15-17	NO	NO	NO
Cambodia – XU7MDC by 22-op team	04 to 14 Nov	349		No	Open	Ings	Fore	Cast		
Philippines – 4I7COW by KCOW, **	06 to 25 Nov	327	09-12	09-13	10-12	14-16	15-16	NO	NO	NO
Madagascar – 5R8IC by F6ICX, **	06 Nov to 04 Feb	90	22-02	21-03	22-03	20-22	18-21	18-20	17-18	no
Micronesia – V63AJ by DF8AN, all modes	06 to 16 Nov	293	07-13	06-14	05-15	14-16	20-22	20-21	NO	NO
Senegal – 6V1IS by 7-op team (incl 6 meters)	06 to 16 Nov	87	22-08	19-10	12-23	13-21	15-19	15-19	NO	NO
Tanzania – 5H3MB by IK2GZU, all modes	07 Nov to 02 Dec	83	23-03	21-04	23-03	19-22	19-20	NO	NO	NO
Mauritius – 3B8/DJ7RJ, 500 w	09 Nov to 06 Dec	88	22-02	21-02	23-01	20-22	19-21	NO	NO	NO
W. Kiribati – T30KJ, MA, etc by 4-op team	10 to 16 Nov	277	05-13	04-14	03-15	18-00	19-21	19-20	NO	NO
Central African Rep – TL8AO by LA7GIA	10 to 22 Nov	79	22-05	21-06	20-06	17-21	15-19	15-19	NO	NO
Uganda – 5X1XA by G3XAQ, **	12 to 28 Nov	77	22-11	21-05	21-05	18-22	17-20	17-19	NO	NO
Palau – T88QR by JJ1DQR, ++ (incl 6m)	15 to 17 Nov	307	08-12	07-14	07-14	14-17	15-16	NO	NO	NO
Kenya – 5Z4/DJ6TF & DL7KL, 500 w	16 to 30 Nov	76	22-04	21-04	21-04	19-22	18-20	17-19	1700	NO
Cambodia – XU7AEZ, team operation	16 Nov to 05 Dec	349		No	Open	ings	Fore	cast		
Guam - KH2/DF8AN, CW, RTTY, PSK	17 to 20 Nov	305	07-13	06-14	06-14	14-16	1500	NO	NO	NO
Fernando de Noronha – PY0F/PV8IG	18 to 21 Nov	115	22-09	19-12	12-22	14-21	15-20	15-20	NO	NO
Laos – XW4XR; CW, RTTY, JT65	19 to 30 Nov	353		No	Open	ings	Fore	cast		
Maldives – 8Q7SP by 8-op team, all modes	20 Nov to 03 Dec	41	22-01	21-01	23-01	19-21	19-20	1800	NO	NO
Nepal – 9N7NZ by JA6GWX, CW and SSB	20 to 23 Nov	13		No	Open	ings	Fore	cast		
DR Congo – 9Q0HQ/3 by IS0BWM, ++	20 Nov to 25 Dec	88	22-05	21-06	20-07	17-21	16-19	16-18	NO	NO
Ascension Is – ZD8V by K0AV, **	21 Nov to 01 Dec	108	22-08	20-10	18-11	13-21	15-19	15-20	NO	NO
Chatham Is – ZL7/JA1XGI,**, some RY/PSK	24 Nov to 01 Dec	230	06-12	04-14	04-14	12-16	19-23	NO	NO	NO
Easter Is – CE0Y/RZ3FW, CE0Y/R4WAA **	24 Nov to 02 Dec	208	01-12	23-14	22-15	14-23	15-21	15-22	16-21	NO
Micronesia – V63DX by JA7HMZ	25 to 30 Nov	293	07-13	06-14	05-15	14-16	15-15	1530	NO	NO

Updated 31 October 2016 based on the 31 October 2016 *The Weekly DX*, the 26 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 --

During October, the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 75 to 105, with a mean value of 86.1 (vs. 104.1 for October 2015 and 153.7 for October 2014), and the A_p index was \geq 7 on 19 days. Through 30 October, the sunspot number ranged from 0 to 64, with a mean of 26.9.

Solar activity through to 30 October was quiet with only four C-class flares. Geomagnetic disturbances, however, caused the A_p to peak at 94 on the 13th, 67 on the 14th, 39 on the 16th, 94 on the 25th, 67 on the 26th and 48 on 29October.

-- NOVEMBER FORECAST -

Solar activity is expected to be very low with a chance for C-class activity throughout the outlook period.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

Geomagnetic field activity is likely to be at active levels 01 Nov, due to the effects of a positive polarity CH HSS. Thereafter, conditions are expected to be predominately quiet with isolated

unsettled periods through 10 Nov. Active conditions are likely on 12 Nov, increasing to G1 storm conditions on 13 Nov, under the influence of a negative polarity CH HSS. Conditions are likely to decrease to unsettled from 14-15 Nov as CH HSS effects wane. Quiet conditions are then expected on 16-18 Nov, increasing to unsettled by 19 Nov. With the onset of another positive polarity CH HSS, major storm levels are forecast 20-22 Nov, decreasing to minor storms 23-25 Nov and unsettled to active 26-28 Nov. Quiet conditions should return 29-30 Nov.

The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 70 to 80 and average 76.4 during November.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 24 October 2016, NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table, 24 October 2016, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 24 October 2016.)

-- ADVANCE DX TIP -

A2-Botswana: G0VJG and team will be activating A25UK with five stations on CW, SSB and RTTY in the Spring of 2017.

-- DON QUIXOTE RIDES AGAIN --

From 19 September to 09 October the HF bands were alive with Spanish stations using the prefix "AN400." These stations were commemorating the 400th anniversary of the death of Miguel de Cervantes, one of the greatest writers in Universal History. His most iconic novel, "Don Quixote" is the most edited and translated book in all Literature History, just behind The Bible. The one-letter suffixes of these AN400 stations spelled out the 14 letters of Cervantes full name. Operating on SSB, CW and Digital modes, these 14 stations worked 79,924 stations in 247 DXCC entities with a total of 857, 936 QSOs. A total of 12,319 US stations made 60,438 QSOs, with W2MF being numero uno with 278 Q's.

This was a great international event that really opened up the HF bands from 160m to 10m. Sorry for you if you missed it.

(Data from http://cervantes.ure.es/)

-- WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD? --

There are two international contests which give a good indication of state of Amateur Radio in the USA. The exchange given between stations in the All Asian Contest and the JARTS WW RTTY Contest is the standard 5/9 or 5/9/9 plus the age of the operator. While, fortunately for ham radio, operators in other countries are usually middle aged, those in the USA are noted to generally be in their 60s and 70s. The very few young people now interested in ham radio in the USA can never replace the multitudes of Old Timers who are passing from the scene.

What does the future hold?

-- ARRL MEMBERS DISENFRANCHISED --

What follows is a detailed overview of the political intrigue of the ARRL Board of Directors, whereby they have denied us, the members of the Southeastern Division, the right to vote in an election for our Director and Vice Director.

As the term for Southeastern Division Director Doug Rehman-K4AC expires 31 December, Doug filed a nominating petition to run for reelection. The Ethics and Election Committee (E&E) reviewed the petition and declared him eligible. The former director, Greg Sarratt-W4OZK, who Doug had defeated in 2013, likewise submitted a petition and was also declared eligible, setting the stage for an election.

Assistant Director Mike Lee-AA6ML also filed to run for reelection and also declared eligible to run for reelection.

The current E&E Committee has three Directors who were appointed by the President:

Dale Williams, WA8EFK, Great Lakes Division (Chair)

Kent Olson, KA0LDG, Dakota Division Rod Blocksome, K0DAS, Midwest Division

Following its declaration of eligibility, the E&E Committee made a demand of Doug that a few sentences be removed from his campaign sites and a demand that a few sentences be removed from his 300-word candidate statement that would be mailed with the ballots. The statement that they found "disturbing" online was, "I have already been told that members of the Board have been communicating privately with members in the Southeastern Division to lobby our members to replace me. The purveyors of backroom politics on the Board would like nothing better than to have a different Southeastern Division Director in January—someone that will conspire with them to maintain their self-serving grasp on power rather than someone that has been fighting it at every turn and fighting to revitalize the League."

The statement they demanded be removed from the 300-word candidate statement was, "This election is a referendum on ARRL Board governance including ethics, transparency, accountability, and vision for the future. Send a clear message to the power elites on the Board that you don't want back room politics and business as usual, that you want a Director who works for you, not them, and that you're concerned about the League's and amateur radio's future—please vote for me, mail your ballot today, and get other members to do the same!"

Although Doug believed it was his Constitutional Right to make those statements, he removed the online statement and rewrote his 300-word statement.

Interestingly, the E&E had previously recognized that freedom of speech is required in election campaigns. The January 2013 E&E Report states, "When people oppose each other as candidates in an election, they can be expected to say unflattering things about each other. This, by itself, is not cause for E&E involvement."

On 20 September, Doug was sent an email by the E&E telling him that the committee had decided to find him ineligible for reelection and declare Sarratt elected.

Mike Lee stepped down as Vice Director and withdrew from the election due to the antics of the Ethics and Elections Committee. Mike had Continued, Pg. 5

built a prototype emergency communications vehicle for the public safety sector. At the July Board Meeting, Mike sat down with the three E&E Directors and outlined his plans including, the vehicle graphics that had not yet been printed and the fact that equipment was on loan from ICOM's land mobile division. They told Mike that it was not a conflict.

Mike then proceeded forward with the project. A month or so later, E&E sent Mike a long series of questions to answer concerning his relationship with ICOM--information he had basically already told them. He replied to their request in detail and then received an email from E&E outlining a ridiculous set of conditions he would have to comply with in order to remain on the Board and the ballot. They left him with no choice but to step down or discontinue his public safety project. Mike was already fed up with what goes on behind closed doors with the Board and resigned.

What has happened to Doug Rehman and Mike Lee was a planned political move to get rid of two people who speak the truth and refuse to be a part of the bad decisions that ar the League. Most importantly, a majority of the 15 Directors have shown just how low regard they have for the members. They have disenfranchised the members of the Southeastern Division, the largest of the 15 Divisions, by anointing a favorite son instead of allowing the members to decide who will represent them.

The ARRL power elites were furious that anyone would dare to disagree with them, much less campaign on it. They were also unhappy that Doug had defeated Sarratt as he was one of them. They had even protected Sarratt in 2012 when Sarratt, serving as the Chairman for the E&E, made a telephone call to a member in the Delta Division to discuss the election taking place. Sarratt disliked the incumbent Delta Division Director Mickey Cox.

While it is disputed as to what was said in that conversation, the fact that Sarratt made a call to a member in a Division where the committee he chaired was overseeing that election is an untenable breach of ethics. Sarratt was allowed to step down from the E&E Committee and the incident was covered up so that the "Board Family" could protect itself.

Doug's disqualification was an illegal act by the E&E Committee. The ARRL Articles of Incorporation, the ARRL Bylaws, or Connecticut statutes provide for disqualifying a candidate from an election once they have been found to meet the specified requirements. (Remember that Doug had already been found eligible and this was announced to the membership.)

Doug appealed the disqualification decision of the E&E to the full Board. With an email vote of 11 Directors refusing to hear the appeal, the decision appeared to be finalized. After he pointed out that the Board was not allowed to conduct such votes without live discussion, a surreptitious 06 October 2016 Special Meeting of the Board was scheduled and no notification was made to the membership

At that Special Meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors took a verbal vote on a resolution to confirm the E&E decisions and declare Sarratt elected for the term beginning 01 January 2017. The vote was twelve for and four against.

The three Directors that joined with Doug in voting "NO" were:

Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, Atlantic Division Dick Norton, N6AA, Southwestern Division David Woolweaver, K5RAV, West Gulf Division

During this fiasco, Doug discovered that the ARRL's General Counsel, Christopher Imlay, is not licensed to practice law in Connecticut. Yet, for 34 years, Imlay has sat in Board Meetings in Connecticut, as well as being on the Board's private email reflectors, and provided legal advice and counsel on all manner of corporate governance—governance of a Connecticut corporation! (Like Professional Engineers, lawyers must be licensed in each and every state in which they practice.) This is particularly pertinent as the forensic evidence shows that the disqualification report documents provided to the Board were created by Imlay.

Doug has set up legal defense fund to help support his struggle against the ARRL Board. Check out https://www.gofundme.com/arrlse At <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/arrlse At https://www.gofundme.com/arrlse At <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/arrlse At https://www.gofundme.com/arrlse At <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/arrlse At <a href="https:/

Also of note, numerous inquiries to the current ARRL President and CEO, and the chair of the E&E Committee have been responded to with meaningless double talk and silence. The potential for loss of ARRL membership in the Southeastern Division is significant. When any organization puts its personal goals above the good of the membership, it shows disregard for the members and is not worthy of their support.

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Breakfast @ Peach's, Exclusive DMR Net 7:30 PM, W4AC 444.100	QCWA,12:00 @ IHOP 4000 South Tamiami Tr. Sarasota	TARC Chat @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	4 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders taken at 7:00 AM	5
FINALLY BACK TO STANDARD TIME TODAY!!	7	Breakfast @ Peach's, Exclusive DMR Net 7:30 PM, W4AC 444.100	TARC Meeting @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center	TARC Chat @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders taken at 7:00 AM	TARC VE Session 10 AM Jacaranda Public Library
13	DARN Emergency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE Rptr 145.430	15 Breakfast @ Peach's, Exclusive DMR Net 7:30 PM, W4AC 444.100	16	17 TARC Chat @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	18 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders taken at 7:00 AM	19
20	21	22 Breakfast @ Peach's, Exclusive DMR Net 7:30 PM, W4AC 444.100	23	TARC Chat @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	25 Breakfast @ Peach's, Orders taken at 7:00 AM	26
27	28	29 Breakfast @ Peach's, Exclusive DMR Net 7:30 PM, W4AC 444.100	30	27 TARC Chat @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	28	29

NOTE: If the W4AC 146.805 Repeater is 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	Applic	ation Date
Please check Letters of Interests: (N) Net Control, ((I) RFI/TVI, (V) VE Tes	ting, (T) Training, (P) Packet, (Y
RTTY, (D) PSK, etc, (O) Computers, (X) DX	, (C) Contests, (F) Fig.	eld Day, (Q) Publicity, (E) Emergen
cy Communications, (S) Special Events, (U) VH	F/UHF, (A) ATV/SSTV	(, (R) Repeater, (L) EchoLink, Other
(specify)		
Regular Member @ \$25.00/year, Family Membership @ \$. Members joining after 30 June pay \$15.00 for remainder of calendar y and all of the following year.)		

MAIL TO: TARC, P. O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274

TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. P. O. Box 976 NOKOMIS, FL 34274

The Communicator is a monthly publication Of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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2016 TARC Officers

President: Andy Durette-KB1HIP
V. President: Gary Hagens-K6OC
Secretary: Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO
Treasurer: San Yoder-K3SY
Directors: Peter Boers-KV4LR

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