



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



-- OCTOBER 2009 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

The past month has been a busy one, for sure. I was out of town for personal reasons twice and several of our members were also travelling.

These activities did not preclude some important Club matters from evolving during the month. As those matters are still in the formative stage, however, we won't go into detail at this time. If the parts all fall into place, it will be a big plus for the TARC.

Elsewhere in this issue you will read an article relative to upcoming activities of benefit to young Radio Amateurs. Of particular interest is the School Club Roundup, which runs for four days around mid-October. A number of our TARC members have actively supported the Pine View School ARC, providing equipment, installing antennas, conducting training, etc. Now would be a great opportunity for more TARC members showing support for the PVSARC by helping its members (and who are also TARC members) to get on the air during this Roundup. If you cannot provide direct support, then at least give the PVSARC club station, W4PVC, a contact if you hear them on the air during the Roundup.

I realize that Scouting activities are not too widespread in this area. However, if you have any contacts with the Scouting organization, advise them that you would be willing to get on the air during the Jamboree-on-the-Air time frame. Invite them to visit your station and see if they can talk to other scouts—near and far.

I think we can all agree that we do need more young people in Amateur Radio. Showing the young hams that we care can go a long way.

73 to all de Stew-W4MO

-- OCTOBER MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **6:00 PM** on Tuesday, **06 October 2009** in the Meeting Room of the Venice Public Library, 300 South Nokomis Avenue. (After entering the Library, turn left near the Information Desk and take to hallway directly to the Meeting Room.) A program of interest will be offered. We hope to see you there.

-- CENTENARIAN MEMBER NOW SK --

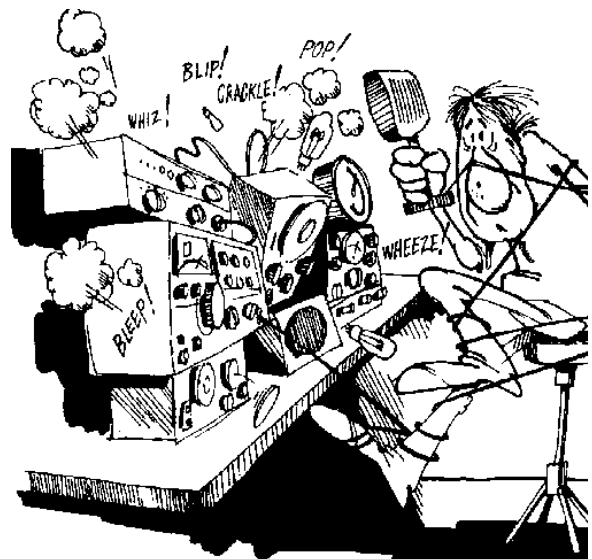
TARC's Honorary Life Member Edward ("Ed") Connors-WB1GHK passed away 27 August, just two weeks shy of his 105th Birthday. Born in Great Barrington, MA, Ed graduated as an Electrical Engineer for Catholic University, and earned a LLD from Fordham University. His professional specialty was patent law.

In Venice, Ed was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church and a Life Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys, in addition to his TARC membership. Ed also enjoyed sailing and dancing.

Survivors include his wife, Elsbeth; nieces Michele Connors Bouchard of Litchfield, CT and Stacie Connors Weinberg of Paso Robles, CA; sisters-in-law Ruth Schuetz of Unterseen, Switzerland and Kathrin Thomke of Grenchen, Switzerland; and their children and grandchildren.

A Memorial Mass was held on 05 September in the chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Ed was an inspiration to those TARC members who had met him and our sympathy goes out to the members of his family. Ed's name has been added to the TARC's Silent Key Memorial Plaque.



TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Minutes of the Meeting
10 September 2009

President Stew Haag-W4MO called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the pledge of allegiance. Introductions were made all around.

MINUTES – Secretary Jack Sproat-W4JS asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the 13 August 2009 meeting as published in the September 2009 issue of *The Communicator*. Jon Hamlet-W4ZW so moved, seconded by Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – A letter was received from Jacaranda Library, advising of the new 10 AM opening time. Jack advised of an e-mail exchange with Elsbeth Connors, widow of Ed Connors-WB1GHK.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Don Jansen-KI4VGE reported that the starting balance was \$1451.91. Receipts were \$11.00 from the July 50/50, and \$11.00 donation from Bob Avrutik-N1RA, totaling \$22.00. Expenses were \$14.32 for DayStar Internet service at the repeater site, and \$213.99 for a new UPS unit for the repeater, totaling \$228.33. The 10 September 2009 ending balance is \$1245.58. Bob-N1RA moved for approval of the report, seconded by Bob Miller-KF4NLP, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – Jack-W4JS reported that Honorary TARC Life Member Ed Connors-WB1GHK passed away 27 August, just two weeks shy of his 105th Birthday. Jack will follow up having Ed's call sign added to the TARC Silent Key Memorial plaque.

VE TESTING – Jack-W4JS stated that no candidates had given advance notice to attend, but we could have walk-ins. This will be the last session starting at 9 AM due to the revised opening time for the library.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Stew reported that use of squelch on the input frequency has reduced the interference such that the repeater can be used. The packet gateway mode is now functioning.

W4AC Trustee Jon-W4ZW has applied for renewal of our frequency coordination. He plans to jury rig a 440 repeater in order to maintain our frequencies on that band.

CLUB PROPERTY – Club property inventory has changed with the addition of a new UPS at the repeater site to replace Stew's UPS at the site that had been damaged by lightning surge.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – Don-KI4VGE reported that we now have 94 members, includ-

ing eight Life Members and 24 First-Year Free members.

NET OPERATIONS – Net Manager Bob Murphy-WA1UHG was not present.

LIAISON TO EARS – Konrad Owens-WA3RRS missed the August meeting.

LIAISON TO QCWA – Jack-W4JS reported that there were 14 members, spouses and friends at the 02 September lunch of Suncoast Chapter 53 at the Panda Pavilion in Venice. Starting 07 October, meeting/luncheons will return to Denny's on Bee Ridge Rd. in Sarasota.

OLD BUSINESS – Jon-W4ZW gave an update on the Pine View School ARS. An organizational meeting will be held 14 September. The satellite antennas and azimuth/elevation rotators are ready for installation and any assistance would be appreciated. Jon wants to schedule a QSO with the ISS after the satellite station is operative, and get some publicity for the PVSARC. He has decided to standardize on Yaesu equipment, so that the members will be comfortable with its use. A new physics teacher at Pine View is quite enthusiastic about ham radio and plans to earn his license ASAP.

NEW BUSINESS – As we had to seek a new location for our TARC meetings after the Foundation ceases being available for night meetings after 30 September, we were able to get into the Meeting Room of the Venice Public Library the first Tuesday of each month. As such, our BoD Meeting schedule required revision. Revised operating hours, such that the libraries will not open until 10 AM, rather well mandated that we find a new location for our BoD meetings. Stew-W4MO has offered the use of his home for this purpose, such that our future BoD meetings will be held there following breakfast at Peach's the Friday prior to the scheduled membership meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – Bruce Brown-WA8IQF reminded all that there would be a DARN exercise at 11:00 AM on 14 September and invited all to check in.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn at 7:21 PM was made by Konrad-WA3RRS, seconded by San Yoder-K3SY, and passed. There were 15 members and no visitors present.

PROGRAM – Jack-W4JS related his experiences, observations and successes on 6 Meters during the past Sporadic-E Season, and displayed QSLs received from the 20+ DXCC entities worked.

Jack Sproat-W4JS
Secretary

CURRENT/PENDING DX ACTIVITY & PROPAGATION HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT and/or SCHEDULED DX ACTIVITY										
COUNTRY – CALL SIGN	ACTIVITY PERIOD	BEAR-ING	HF BANDS and BEST OPENING TIMES (GMT)							
			80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
Papua New Guinea - P29CW	Now to 19 Dec	283	08-12	06-13	06-15	13-16	21-01	--	--	--
Malawi – 7Q7HB ** and Digital	Now to 30 Nov	90	22-04	21-05	20-05	16-21	13-20	15-18	15-18	NO
South Korea – HL9QST	Now to 13 Nov	335	09-11	08-12	12-14	23-00	NO	NO	NO	NO
Timor Leste – 4W6FR ++	Now to 31 Oct	300	09-12	08-13	08-14	14-15	14-15	NO	NO	NO
Mayotte – TO7RJ	Now to 21 Oct	85	22-03	21-04	21-00	17-20	16-18	16-18	16-17	NO
Malawi – 7Q7BJ	Now to 12 Oct	90	22-04	21-05	20-05	10-21	13-20	15-18	15-18	NO
Austral Is – TX5SPA	Now to 12 Oct	239	03-12	01-13	00-12	16-01	17-00	17-23	18-21	18-22
Glorioso Is – FT5GA	Now to 05 Oct	82	23-03	22-04	21-01	17-20	16-18	15-17	15-17	NO
New Caledonia – FK/AI5P **	01 – 08 October	258	06-12	05-13	04-14	00-02	20-00	20-23	21-22	21-22
Conway Reef – 3D20CR; by German team	01 – 10 October	255	06-12	04-14	03-14	22-01	19-00	20-22	20-23	2100
Fiji – 3D2MJ & 3D2KJ	01 – 28 October	258	05-12	04-14	04-12	18-00	19-22	20-22	20-22	NO
South Georgia Is – VP8DIF	01 Oct – 15 Nov	155	23-08	22-09	22-02	19-00	14-22	14-22	NO	NO
Malawi – 7Q7CE	02 – 20 October	90	22-04	21-05	20-05	16-21	13-20	15-18	15-18	NO
Mozambique – C91VM ++	05 – 23 October	101	--	21-05	20-05	16-21	14-19	15-19	15-19	NO
Bhutan – A52FJJ	08 – 20 October	8	2330	22-01	00-01	12-21	NO	NO	NO	NO
Midway Island – K4M	09 – 19 October	297	04-12	02-14	01-14	18-00	19-22	20-21	20-21	NO
Vanuatu – YJ0PX **	10 – 18 October	262	06-12	05-14	05-14	19-00	19-23	20-22	20-22	NO
Benin – TY1MS; by Dutch operators	10 – 27 October	85	22-06	20-08	19-02	12-23	14-21	15-20	15-20	NO
Maldives – 8Q7AK	12 – 25 October	41	22-01	21-02	20-23	13-21	15-20	15-20	NO	NO
Marquesas Is – TX5SPM	16 – 22 October	245	02-12	00-13	15-01	15-00	16-22	17-21	17-21	NO
St Pierre & Miquelon – FP/KV1J & W8TOM	20 – 27 October	39	21-13	11-00	12-22	15-19	16-17	NO	NO	NO
Papua New Guinea – P29VCX & P29VLR	22 – 31 October	283	08-12	06-14	06-15	13-16	21-22	21-22	NO	NO
Easter Is – XR0Y; 2 stns w/30-meter priority	31 Oct – 15 Nov	208	01-12	22-14	20-16	13-00	14-23	15-21	16-21	16-21

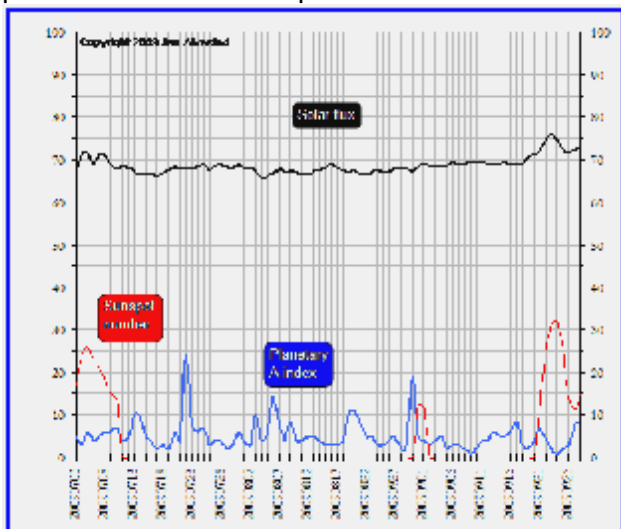
Updated 20 August 2009, based on 19 August 2009 QZ DX, 17 August 2009 *The Weekly DX*, and <http://www.ng3k.com/>

Notes: Time in bold = Band(s) 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 in accordance with USAF 45-Day A/P Forecast.

-- SEPTEMBER SOLAR ACTIVITY --

During September, the Solar Flux ranged from 68 to 76, with a mean value of 70.4 (vs. 67.1 for September 2008 and 67.1 for September 2007). The A-index was ≥ 7 on only 3 days.

Solar activity was very low. Region 1026 showed on 21 September, followed by Region 1027 on 22 September. The sunspot number peaked at 32 on 25 September.



(Courtesy of: Jan Alvestad, <http://www.solen.info/solar/>)

-- OCTOBER FORECAST --

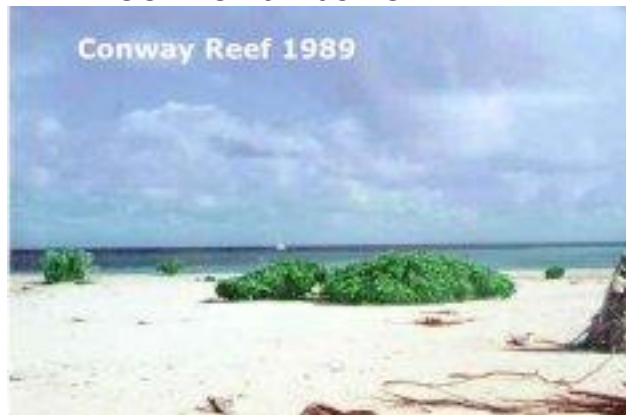
Solar activity is expected to be very low. No proton events are expected at geosynchronous

orbit. Solar flux should average 70.1 during October.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be quiet to unsettled 02-03 October. Quiet conditions are expected 04-23 October, increasing to quiet to unsettled 24-25. Quiet conditions should prevail during the remainder of October.

(From NOAA *Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 29 September 2009, NOAA *27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 29 September 2009, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 29 September 2009)

-- LOOK FOR 3D20CR ON THE AIR --



From 01-10 October, eight operators from Germany and the Netherlands will put this Fijian atoll, which is #22 Most Needed, on the air.

CONTESTS & ACTIVITIES

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
Oceania DX Phone Contest	0800Z 03 Oct 0800Z 04 Oct	160 – 10 Meters SSB Only	Stations in Oceania (VK, ZL, YB, DU, etc)	R/S and Serial Number
EU Autumn Sprint	1600Z 03 Oct 1959Z 03 Oct	75 – 20 Meters SSB Only	European Stations Only	Both Call Signs, Serial No., Name
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest	0700Z 04 Oct 1900Z 04 Oct	15 and 10 Meters SSB and CW	Only Stations in the United Kingdom	Serial Number
Oceania DX CW Contest	0800Z 10 Oct 0800Z 11 Oct	160 – 10 Meters CW Only	Stations in Oceania (VK, ZL, YB, DU, etc)	R/S/T and Serial Number
Worked All Britain HF Contest	1200Z 10 Oct 1200Z 11 Oct	20 – 10 Meters SSB Only	Anyone, Anywhere	R/S, Serial Number and DXCC Entity
Worked All Germany	1500Z 17 Oct 1459Z 18 Oct	80 – 10 Meters SSB and CW	German Stations Only	R/S/(T) and Serial Number
CQ World Wide DX Contest	0000Z 24 Oct 2359Z 25 Oct	160 – 10 Meters SSB Only	DXCC Entities in the 40 CQ Zones	R/S and CQ Zone (locally, Zone 5)
Fall VHF Sprint	2300Z 24 Oct 0300Z 25 Oct	Six Meters Only SSB/CW/Digital	Anyone, Anywhere	Maidenhead Grid Square

From ARRL "Contest Corral" and *WorldRadio*

-- ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG MEMBERS --

There are two operating activities scheduled for October which should be of interest to our younger members.

School Club Roundup – This event is scheduled for the third full school week of October, beginning at 1300 UTC (0900 EDT) on 19 October and ending at 2400 UTC (2000 EDT) on 23 October. During that time span, you may operate no more than 6 hours out of 24, and you may not operate more than 24 hours in total.

There are three entry classes: (I) Individual-non-club, (C) Club-non-school, (S) School club. The exchange is your call sign, signal report, Class (I, C or S), and State. Suggested frequencies are 28.440-28.460, 21.300-21.330, 14.250-14.280, 7.225-7.255 and 3.850-3.880. CW in the lower 130 kHz on 10 and 15 meters and the lower 30-40 kHz on 20, 40 and 80 meters.

This is a good opportunity for young people to get some on-the-air operating experience. It also is an opportunity for any station to show support to those young people by giving them some contacts.

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) – JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other via Amateur Radio. Since the first JOTA was held in 1958, untold Scouts have met each other through this event. This year the JOTA will be held from Midnight (local time) Saturday, 17 October through to Midnight Sunday, 18 October. This is not a contest; rather it is an oppor-

tunity to foster friendship between Scouts, both in this country and in other nations of the World. If you know any Scouts, or have any contact with the local Scout group, advise them that they are welcome to visit your station while you make contact with some JOTA stations.

-- MORE PACIFIC ACTION 09-19 OCTOBER --



Following the Conway Reef operation, a dozen multinational operators will put Midway Island, which is ranked #24 Most Needed, on the air.

Midway Atoll is an unorganized, unincorporated territory of the United States, consisting of a ring-shaped barrier reef and several sand islets. The two significant pieces of land, Sand Island and Eastern Island, provide habitat for hundreds of thousands of seabirds (often referred to as Gooney Birds).

Midway is now a National Wildlife Refuge and is uninhabited—quite in contrast to its status some 67 years ago when it played a major role in World War II.

October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 TARC Emergency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	2 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM	3
4	5	6 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM TARC Meeting @ 6 PM, Venice Library	7 QCWA Lunch, 11:30 AM @ Denny's in Sarasota TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater	8 TARC Emergency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	9 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM	10 TARC VE Session @ 10:00 AM, Venice Public Library
11	12 DARN Emergency Net @ 11 AM & 7:30 PM, Starts on W4AC re- peater 146.805	13 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	14 TARC DX Net 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	15 TARC Emergency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	16 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM	17
18	19	20 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	21 TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	22 TARC Emergency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	23 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM	24
25	26	27 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, 146.580	28 TARC DX Net, 8 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	29 TARC Emergency Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	30 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:45 AM	

NOTE: If the W4AC Repeater is inoperative, nets scheduled for activity on the repeater will be held on the simplex frequency of 146.580 MHz. 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) _____

Single Member @ \$15.00/year ___, Family Membership @ \$20.00/year___ (\$8.00 after 30 June for remainder of calendar year. \$15.00 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.
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Circulation: Don Jansen-KI4VGE

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