

THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of the TAMIAMI 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



-- OCTOBER 2015 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

Not a message this month but some questions to consider. I am not as knowledgeable as most of you and therefore I ask the following:

Is this really Ham Radio? Computerized CW, where the computer reads the traffic for you and sends for you where you can adjust character and word separation, speed, even "fist." It seems that computers have removed the need for manual skill from the contest, leaving only skill at computer operation. I wonder which computer will win the 2015 award.

Then there's "What"? I came across this recently while in Arcadia (kayaking). I was asked if the letters on my "Yak" were a designation of my connection with Ham Communication. We talked a bit and then he took out his I-Phone, activated his speaker and said, "Catch this." He dialed a number which connected him with his laptop in the Tampa area. A few beeps and assorted tones and I could hear CW traffic. He then began to touch two different keys and sent Morse code with the phone.

The explanation was that he had reached his home where his computer connected him to the Internet, followed by a connection to a rented connection in Washington state. His Signal went from there to Fairbanks, Alaska. A few seconds later his phone sprouted some more Morse code which he said was his brother. Because he used a cell phone (a radio signal) does that make it ham radio?

My next question is about the multitude of HT/transceivers being acquired from the orient by ANYONE and being used as family radios for hunting, and camping etc. Do you think this will eventually affect your use of two way radio?

I have a lot more questions, not all about electronics, some are political, some are about our ethics and last, but not least, where we are letting our country go?

VY 73 de Fred-KJ4TNI

Every burden is a blessing.

-- OCTOBER MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, <u>14 October 2015</u> 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 or President Fred-KJ4TNI will undoubtedly have something to offer of interest.

-- SE STATIONS FOR POPE FRANCIS --

When Pope Francis visited the US in late September, Amateur Radio special event stations were on the air to mark the occasion. The Pope was in the US from 22 to 27 September. Nine "Papal Visit" Amateur Radio special event stations were active while he was here.

The Pope met with President Barack Obama, and addressed a joint session of the Congress. He then attended a UN General Assembly session and took part in a service at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center. He spoke at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, before concluding his visit with an outdoor mass in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Call signs from MD, DC and VA were K3P and N4P; K2P from NY and NJ; W3FRC/WMF from Southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware; and from Philadelphia, W3P and WM3PEN. Commemorative QSL cards and a certificate to mark the historic event are available.

Members of the Potomac Valley Radio Club, the Frankford Radio Club, the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club, and the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club, plus individual radio amateurs, helped to coordinate activity.

(From *The ARRL Letter*, 17 September 2015)



Tamiami Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the Meeting 9 September 2015

President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM with a flag pledge. Introductions were then made all around. David Levey-W4/2E0UAY from England and Joe Thiel-WA1VNP from Venice were our honored guests.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 12 August 2015 meeting as published in the September 2015 issue of *The Communicator*. Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX so moved, seconded by Al Culbert-K0AL, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

TREASURER'S REPORT – San Yoder-K3SY reported that the starting balance was \$4,678.07. There were no Receipts or Expenses. We had a closing balance of \$4,678.07. Dave Gill-K4JDG moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE - Nothing reported.

VE TESTING – No candidates lined up at this time for the 12 September VE session.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Both the 146.805 and 444.100 machines are operating satisfactorily.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – A family membership for Paul Johnson-NA8PJ and Caryn Johnson-N8QGB was added. We now have 53 regular members, 1 complimentary member, 8 student members and 4 life members for a total of 66 members.

San Yoder-K3SY had an article published in the Venice Neighbors magazine for Stoneybrook.

NET OPERATIONS – Fred reminded all of our 440 and 2-meter nets

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 12 members and spouses at the 2 September lunch at the Hibachi Grill Buffet, 549 Hwy 41, Venice, FL

OLD BUSINESS – September is the last month at Hibachi Grill for QCWA lunch. It then returns to Denny's on Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota for the winter months.

NEW BUSINESS - None

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – Guenther Hennig-AJ4QX has contacted our House and Senate representatives to ask for their support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 (H.R. 1301 and S. 1687) to apply PRB-1 to CC&R

governed neighborhoods. We should all show our support as well.

To date, 96 members of the House of Representatives support HR-1301. With the companion bill S-1685 introduced in the Senate, we are rapidly gaining support in both houses of Congress.

ADJOURNMENT – At 7:15 PM, a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO, seconded by Don Jansen-Kl4VGE, and passed. There were 14 members present.

PROGRAM – Vic Ouellette-K1CGI showed his ARES field pack and explained a little about the organization.

Dave Gill-K4JDG; Secretary

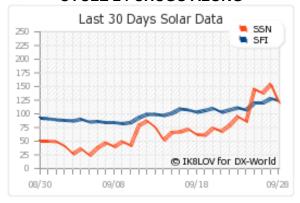
-- JOINT CUBAN/US OPERATION --



A group of hams plan to take advantage of the recent thaw in relations between the United States and Cuba to mount a joint US/Cuban ham operation in late October, including during the SSB weekend of the CQ World Wide DX Contest. According to *The ARRL Letter*, a group of nine U.S. hams, led by Jim Millner-WB2REM, and nine Cuban amateurs, led by Bob Ibarra-CM2KL, plan to operate as T42US between 21 to 28 October. The CQWW SSB weekend is 24-25 October.

(From CQ Newsroom, 02 September 2015)

-- CYCLE 24 CHUGS ALONG --



MAJOR CURRENT/UPCOMING DX ACTIVITY & PROPAGATION HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT and/or SCHEDULED DX ACTIVITY										
COUNTRY – CALL SIGN ACTIVITY BEAR- HF BANDS and BEST OPENING TIMES (UT						C)				
COUNTRY - CALL SIGN	PERIOD	ING	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
French Polynesia – TX7A; by JA1GZV	Now to 31 Oct	243	03-12	02-13	02-13	23-01	16-23	17-22	18-21	18-21
North Cook Is – E51MQT; CW, SSB, RTTY	Now to 29 Oct	255		02-14	02-14	16-01	17-00	17-22		
Tanzania – 5H3MB; by IK2GZU, HF	Now to 18 Oct	83	23-03	22-04	00-04	20-00	20-21	21-22	NO	NO
Mariana Is – NH0/DL2AH; SSB, 100w	Now to 16 Oct	306		07-13		13-16	14-15	14-15	14-15	NO
North Cook Is – E51MKW; by KZ1W, SSB	Now to 13 Oct	255	04-12	02-14		16-01	17-00	17-22	18-21	18-22
Tuvalu – T2GC; 3 ops, all modes, trying 6m	Now to 06 Oct	267	06-12	04-13	04-14	13-15	18-00	19-22	19-21	19-21
Micronesia – V63WJ; by JS3LSQ, RTTY	Now to 04 Oct	293	07-12	06-13	06-13	13-16	14-15	14-15	14-15	NO
Chesterfield Is – TX3X; 12 ops, all modes	02 to 12 October	264	07-12	06-13	05-14	13-14	13-16	13-14	22-00	21-22
Dodecanese – SV5/IK2ECC; CW, 500w	02 to 14 October	49	23-05	21-07	21-05	12-19	13-17	14-16	15-16	1500
Seychelles – S79SP; 7 ops, all modes	03 to 18 October	68	23-02	22-03	NO	21-00	22-00	NO	NO	NO
Mauritius – 3B8???; by DJ7RJ, focus on 160	05 to 20 October	88	23-02	23-02	22-03	20-22	20-23	20-21	2000	NO
Palau – T88MZ; by JH0CKF, SSB	06 to 09 October	306	09-11	08-13		13-16	14-16	14-16	15-17	NO
Svalbard – JW9DL, JW6VM, JW7XK	07 to 12 October	13	23-10	22-12	10-12	13-17	14-16	14-16	NO	NO
Guantanamo Bay – KG4WV, KG4DY	09 to 23 October	135	00-24	00-24	12-00	14-21	16-20	16-20	NO	NO
Turkey – TA3/NY4G, mainly CW	11 to 30 October	44	23-05	21-06	21-04	12-18	13-16	13-16	13-16	1430
Indonesia – YB16IARU; Region 3 IARU	12 to 16 October	300	1100	1100	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Marshall Is – V73D; 12 ops, 160m-6m	13 to 28 October	282	05-12	04-13	03-14	13-14	19-22	19-21	1930	1930
Vietnam – 3W2HCM; by VK6LC, CW	16 to 23 October	348				NO	NO	NO		
Macao – XX9???; 2-op team, SSB, RTTY	16 to 28 October	341		10-12	NO	12-13	1230	NO	NO	NO
Cape Verde Is – D4D; 8 ops, CW SSB, RY	17 to 24 October	89	22-08	20-11	18-12	12-00	13-22	14-21	15-19	16-19
Fernando de Noronha – PY0F/AA4NC	17 to 27 October	115	22-09	20-11	19-12	12-23	14-21	15-19	16-20	16-20
San Andres & Providencia – 5J0B; LU1FM	17 to 27 October	177	20-14	00-24	00-24	13-00	14-23	15-21	16-20	16-21
Micronesia – V63AH; by DL2AH, SSB	18 Oct – 10 Nov	293		06-13	06-13	13-16	14-15	14-15	15-16	NO
Micronesia – V6AAA; by JH2BNL	25 to 29 October	293	07-12	06-13	06-13	13-16	14-15	14-15	15-16	NO
Agalega & St Brandon – 3B7FA; by 3B8FA	26 to 31 October	82				19-22		19-20		NO
Bhutan – A52CVX; by SM6CVX, CW	27 to 29 October	8	2330	23-00	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
East Kiribati – T32DX; 3 ops, verticals	27 Oct – 03 Nov	267		02-14	01-13	17-00	17-22	17-20	18-20	18-20
Palau – T88ZE, T88KK, T88SH; 160m-6m	30 Oct - 05 Nov	306	08-12	07-13	12-13	13-17	15-16	15-16	1500	NO
Vietnam – 3W3MD; 20 ops, 5 stations	31 Oct – 10 Nov	348	1100	1100	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

Updated 28 September based on the 28 September *The Weekly DX*, the 23 September *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.

-- SEPTEMBER SOLAR ACTIVITY --

Through 29 September the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 82 to 129, with a mean value of 101.1 (vs. 146.2 for September 2014 and 102.7 for September 2013), and the A_p index was \geq 7 on 23 days. Through 29 September, the sunspot number ranged from 24 to 154, with a mean of 73.4.

Space weather during September ranged from quiet to active with 21 M-class and 112 C-class flares through the 29^{th} . Severe geomagnetic disturbances from multiple CMEs peaked the A_p to 80-94 on 07-09 September, 132 on the 11^{th} and 111 on 20 September.

-- OCTOBER FORECAST -

Solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels to 03 October, very low to low levels 04 – 14 October and a chance of moderate levels 15 – 31 October.

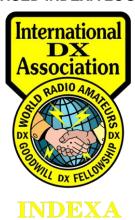
No proton events are expected.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at normal to moderate levels with high levels possible 03, 06, 09-15 and 18-24 October following recurrent CH HSS events. Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at mostly quiet to unsettled levels. Active periods are likely 01-02, 04-05, 07-09, 16-17, 28-29 and 31 October due to recurrent CH HSS.

The 10.7 cm Solar Flux should range from 110 to 130 and average 105.0 during October.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 28 September 2015, NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table, 28 September 2015, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 28 September 2015.)

-- REVISED INDEXA LOGO --



MAJOR CONTESTS DURING OCTOBER 2015

TARA PSK Ru	umble Contest	Oceania DX Contest		Russian WW Digital Contest				
03 Oct 0000Z	03 Oct 2359Z	03 Oct 0800Z 04		04 Oct 0800Z	03 Oct 1200Z		04 Oct 1159Z	
1.8-28 50	PSK Modes	1.8-28		SSB	1.8-28		BPSK63, RTTY	
Name, Call Area (or country)		RS, Serial			RST(Q), Serial			
www.n2ty.org/seasons		www.oceaniadxcontest.com			www.rdrclub.ru			
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest Oceania DX Conte			X Contest	Scandinavian Activity Contest				
04 Oct 0700Z	04 Oct 1900Z	10 Oct	0800Z	11 Oct 0800Z	10 Oct 1200Z		11 Oct 1200Z	
21, 28	CW, SSB	1.8-28	1	CW	3.5-28		SSB	
RS(T), Serial		RST, Serial			RS, Serial			
www.rsgbbcc.org/hf		www.oceaniadxcontest.com			www.sactest.net/blog/rules			
JARTS WW F	RTTY Contest	CQ Worldwide DX Contest		Russian WW Multimode Contest				
17 Oct 0000Z	18 Oct 2359Z	24 Oct	0000Z	25 Oct 2359Z	31 Oct 1200Z		01 Nov 1159Z	
3.5-28	RTTY	1.8-28		SSB	1.8-28		CW,SSB,RTTY,PSK63	
RST, Age of Operator		RS, CQ Zone			RST(Q), Serial (Note 100w max.)			
http://jarts.jp/rules2015.html		http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm			www.rdrclub.ru			

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.

-- FLA DEP. SHERIFF/HAM KILLED --

William J. "Bill" Myers-KK4KF, an Okaloosa County deputy sheriff, died of gunshot wounds after serving a domestic violence restraining order at an attorney's office in Shalimar, where he lived. *NorthEscambia.com* reported on 23 September, "Deputy Myers was walking outside when he was shot multiple times in the back, including a gunshot wound to the rear of his head." An Associated Press account said the shooter, identified as Joel Dixon Smith, 33, was supposed to be turning over any firearms in his possession, but apparently shot Myers with "a concealed weapon." The shooter was later shot and killed by authorities after barricading himself in a motel room.

A ham since 1986, 64-year old Myers was a US Air Force retiree and former air traffic controller. He enjoyed operating CW, was a member of the FISTS CW Club, and in recent years often ran QRP. One of his sons is also a ham.

(From The ARRL Letter, 24 September 2015)

-- REGION 3 IARU CONFERENCE --

Region 3 of the International Amateur Radio Union will hold its triennial conference on Oct. 12 in Bali, hosted by the Indonesian radio society, ORARI.

The special event station, YB16IARU will be operating at the conference venue, the Sanur Paradise Plaza Hotel, through the gathering's conclusion on Oct. 16. This is the second time Indonesia has hosted the event.

Attendees will include representatives from the ARRL US Pacific Territories, NZART New Zealand, JARL Japan and VARC Vietnam, among others. The agenda will include the push by the UN to have Morse Code granted heritage recognition, the World Radio Conference to be held in Geneva in November and the IARU's role in CubeSat launches.

(Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1978, 25 September 2015)

-- PHISHING HITS @ARRL.NET --

A phishing scheme has been targeting ARRL members who use the ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service and have an *@arrl.net* e-mail alias. An e-mail from "Arrl Webmail Admin" with the subject line "ACCOUNT UPGRADE" was received 25 September by an unknown number of members who use this service. The e-mail, which requests that recipients reply by providing their usernames and passwords, did not come from the ARRL, and anyone receiving this sort of message should delete it and not reply

"ARRL is aware of this phishing scheme and is working to block the sender's e-mail address at our upstream provider," said Andy Shefrin-KB1YHB, ARRL's IT Infrastructure & Operations Manager. "As with any e-mails of unknown origin, do not open or reply." Simply replying to this e-mail alerts the sender that your e-mail address is valid.

E-mail <u>itstaff@arrl.org</u> with details if you have been hit with this bug. (TNX N2MFT at MFDXA)

-- "MR. PSK31" FLOATS AGAIN --

Ed. Note: In the August issue of The Communicator, an article described the pending "pontoon portable" operation by TARCian Stan Robinson-W9SMR. Here's the results of that operation.

Those who know Stan also know he's a dedicated and active PSK31 operator. (He's also danged clever at creating certificates, such as those for stations who worked K4S at least three times.) Again, this year Stan and his fellow keyboard artist Bob Billings-ley-KC9UR went A.P.E., i.e., with their floating August Phaseshifter's Expedition.

This year these worthy "phaseshifters" set up two stations on Stan's pontoon boat on Round Lake in northeast Indiana, and operated two evenings and two days from Monday, 24 August, through Wednesday, 26 August. To encourage participation, they offered a custom QSL card plus a custom certificate (Stan's handiwork) to everyone who worked them on 3 or more bands. The tactic worked, because this year a record 18 operators became certified "APE Hunters", with 8 working them on 3 bands, 7 working them on 4 bands, 1 working them on 5 bands, and 2 working them on 6 bands!



Here's KC9UR setting up the 20M Floating 4-Square swim-raft-mounted antenna

In addition, several other antennas were erected for operation on 80 to 6 meters, less WARC bands and 10 meters.

A total of 222 QSOs were made into 32 states and 18 countries. The best DX was E50B on South Cook Island on 20 meters. The first APE 6-meter contact was made with N4GBK down in North Carolina during a sporadic-E opening on 25 August.



The dynamic duo inside Stan's pontoon boat.
They ran two Kenwood TS-590's barefoot with
Fldigi software. Stan points to the bananas which
were sustenance for the "APES".

Here's an excellent example of hams having fun and making use of the licenses they worked hard to attain. There's a lot more to Ham Radio than a Chinese HT in your pocket! Are you missing the real fun?

-- LOOK OUT FOR THIS ONE --



The 12-man team was scheduled to depart New Caledonia on 28 September aboard the expedition sailing vessel *Evohe*.



The team should arrive at Chesterfield 01 October and be there until 12 October. Seven dependable Elecraft K3 transmitters with matching panadapters and 500-watt amps will team up with a variety of directional and vertical antennas. Chesterfield ranks #21 in the ClubLog Most Needed list, so it's in the Semi-Rare category. Catch it if you can!

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, + 7:00 AM	3
4	5	6 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	7 QCWA @ 11:30 AM, Denny's, Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota	7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	9 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	TARC VE Session 10 AM Venice Public Library
11	DARN Emergency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE Rptr 145.430	13 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	TARC Meet- ing @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center	15 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	17
18	19	20 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	21	22 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	Breakfast @ Peach's, + 7:00 AM	24
25	26	27 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	28	29 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	30 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	31

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	Applica	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) D2	X, (C) Contests, (F) Fig.	eld Day, (Q) Publicity, (E) Emerger
cy Communications, (S) Special Events, (U) VI	HF/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 and all of the following year.)		

MAIL TO: TARC, 1419 E. MANASOTA BEACH RD, ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223-6341

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

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Secretary: Dave Gill-K4JDG
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Directors: Jim Shortill-KJ4NDO

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