



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>



-- SEPTEMBER 2014 --

-- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE --

I got into an interesting discussion while at the North Jetty the other night. It seems the daughter of one individual had veered off the roadway and, while no one was injured, several people stopped to offer assistance, including a FHP officer who was behind her. Seems he had followed her after seeing her on a cell phone. Now there was no damage to the highway or her vehicle (except where the coffee she was holding in one hand had spilled), so she was cited for careless/ reckless driving. It turned out she was communicating with her mother, who was following in a car behind the young lady.

The discussion centered on distracted driving while using a communication device, be it a cell phone, tablet and, yes, a radio microphone. It was agreed by all present that there should be laws to control such usage.

Such laws would be supported in a Civil Perspective. The ARRL has been addressing this matter for several years (always arguing that mobile ham operators should be exempt from such regulations) and will continue to do so. However it falls upon us as licensed Hams to do our best to act in a rational manner. For instance, there is the issue of having to set tone information for a new repeater which would be a suicide operation to say the least if attempted while in motion. We all need to make sure our equipment is safely mounted so as not cause a distraction or injury to anyone in the vehicle. We need to know our equipment and its operating parameters and, above all, to be attentive drivers.

VY 73 to All de Fred-KJ4TNI

-- SEPTEMBER MEETING --

Our meeting will start at **7:00 PM** on Wednesday, **10 September 2014** at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Training Center, 1200 South Harbor Drive. Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB has promised a program showing ham radio in action. We'll send out details in the e-mail meeting reminder.

-- REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION --

Sarasota County offers a very ham friendly environment. Unless you live in some restricted development, the County only limits your tower height to a 50% setback, i.e., a 100' tower would have to be 50' from the property line. No permits or any inspections of the tower installation are required. Many other governments are not so accommodating to hams, but some are not inflexible, as witness this positive example.

The nearly 300 radio amateurs who live in Poway, a city of some 50,000 in San Diego County, California, may erect antenna support structures of up to 65 feet with only a building permit and a courtesy notice to their neighbors. The Poway City Council unanimously approved the new ordinance on August 5. According to the August 6 *Pomerado*, the Council "declined to adopt an alternative ordinance that would have required obtaining a special minor use permit" for structures between 35 and 65 feet.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay-W3KD said the League has been working with Poway's Amateur Radio community for "a very long time" on the matter. ARRL's Amateur Radio Legal Defense and Assistance Committee contributed funding for the effort.

"It represented a big change in well-entrenched attitudes in Poway spanning decades, so this is a big win for us," Imlay said.

Members of the Poway Amateur Radio Society (PARS) submitted a technical report to the City Council. The report concluded that antenna support structures of up to 65 feet would represent "reasonable accommodation" for Amateur Radio communication under PRB-1, due to the area's varied topography.

The subject of Poway's Amateur Radio antenna ordinance came up at the ARRL Board of Directors January 2014 meeting. ARRL General

See **Poway**, page 4



**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the Meeting
13 August 2014**

It wasn't Friday the 13th, but "unlucky 13" prevailed as no one from the Coast Guard Auxiliary showed up to open the facility for us. Consequently, after suitable delay, President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI called an open-air meeting to order at 7:17 PM with a flag pledge. Introductions were then made all around, with Stan Duncan from Sarasota being recognized as a visitor.

MINUTES – Fred requested a motion to accept the minutes of the 09 July meeting as published in the August issue of *The Communicator*. Dave Gill-K4JDG so moved, seconded by Bob Smith-KK4WKT, and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Jack-W4JS advised that three copies of the ARRL's Technician Class Q&A manuals had been received. One copy is in the Reference Section and one copy is on the open shelves at the Venice Public Library, and Jack has one copy for direct use by TARC members or potential members.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Dave Gill-K4JDG reported that the starting balance was \$4096.27. Receipts were \$13.00 from the July 50/50, a \$12.00 donation from Stew Haag-W4MO, \$15 membership fee from Tom McDermitt-W3GXV, and \$159.50 payment for 10 desktop call signs, totaling \$199.50. Expenses were \$175.45 to Peter Gerold for 11 desktop call signs. Pat Marx-N4PRM moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Tom McDermitt-W3GXV, and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNSHINE – Nothing to report.

VE TESTING – We had three candidates at our 09 August VE session, and all were successful with upgrades and new licenses. TARC member Ken Magill-KK4IGK upgraded to General and two candidates, one of whom was tonight's visitor Stan Duncan, earned their Technician licenses.

REPEATER/TECHNICAL – Both the 146.805 and 444.100 machines are operating satisfactorily. For the benefit of those present, Fred read the 17 July 2014 e-mail from Jonathan Cole, the new owner of the repeater site property, in which Mr. Cole granted TARC use of the site for as long as he owns the tower. In exchange, Mr. Cole requested free membership in the TARC and that the TARC will continue to maintain the air conditioner and other club facilities, generally keep the weeds down, and do minor maintenance inside the fence surrounding the tower.

All present were very pleased with this generous offer by Mr. Cole.

PUBLICITY/MEMBERSHIP – Fred reported that the 01 August roster shows 56 Regular members, five Life members and seven Student members, for a total of 68 members.

NET OPERATIONS – Fred asked how many present have 146 and/or 444 MHz radios, and then asked why they didn't participate in our weekly nets.

LIAISON TO QCWA – There were 13 members and spouses at our 06 August lunch at the Hibachi Grill Buffet In Bird Bay Plaza. Any and all are welcome to join us the first Wednesday of each month around 11 AM.

OLD BUSINESS – Fred advised that he has an appointment with a reporter from the Herald-Tribune newspaper, in an effort to get some publicity published for the TARC.

NEW BUSINESS – Fred asked if those present had written a letter to their member of the US House to state their support for HR 4969, the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014", and to ask their Representative to please sign on as a co-sponsor for the bill.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR – Nothing.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn was made at 7:32, and passed. There were 12 members and one visitor present.

PROGRAM – Hans Napfel-WB2ZZB had a video presentation available however, as it was still daylight and no electricity was available outside the building, we must await the September meeting to see this program.

Jack Sproat-W4JS
Secretary

-- FRED SPREADS THE WORD --



TARC President Fred Lathwood-KJ4TNI likes to Chow down on the north side of the Venice Jetty. The 21 August issue of the *Herald-Tribune* had this photo of Fred and an interview mentioning his ham radio interests. Fred's ultimate goal is to gain publicity for the TARC.

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
Dodecanese – SV5/GM0HO; 2-man team	Now to 08 Sept	49	--	--	--	11-23	12-22	--	--	--
Crete – SV9/LZ3FN; **	Now to 07 Sept	51	23-05	22-07	21-06	17-00	12-22	16-19	16-20	16-20
Palau – T88AT; by KQ2I, **	Now to 03 Sept	307	--	08-13	08-13	--	--	--	--	--
New Caledonia – TX4A; 2-man team	01 – 09 Sept	258	--	05-13	05-13	02-15	13-05	19-01	20-00	20-22
Niue – E6MF; by ZL2MF, ++	02 – 09 Sept	252	--	03-13	--	17-14	--	17-02	--	18-21
Macao – XX9TYT; by IK7YTT, ++	04 – 08 Sept	341	NO	1100	--	12-16	13-16	14-15	13-16	NO
Bhutan – A52LSS; by JH3LSS, all modes	04 – 10 Sept	8	NO	NO	23-00	23-03	13-17	13-17	01-02	NO
Bhutan – A52IVU; by JA3IVU, all modes	04 – 11 Sept	8	NO	NO	23-00	11-15	13-17	13-17	01-02	NO
Palau – T88PB; by JH0JHQ	05 – 08 Sept	307	09-12	08-13	08-13	13-04	13-04	21-03	21-00	21-00
Bhutan – A52EQW; by JH3AEF	05 – 07 Sept	8	--	--	--	--	13-17	13-17	01-02	--
Palau – T88ZD; by JH1QUJ	05 – 08 Sept	307	09-12	08-13	08-13	13-04	13-04	21-03	21-00	21-00
Monaco – 3A/YO2MSB	05 – 12 Sept	50	23-06	21-08	21-07	11-01	12-23	13-21	15-20	15-20
Cape Verde – D44KS; by EA7FTR SSB/RTY	05 Sept – 10 Oct	89	--	20-11	20-12	11-03	12-00	14-23	15-21	17-18
Sable Is – CY0C; 2-man team, 1430-2130Z	08 Sept; one day	41	--	--	14-22	14-22	14-22	--	--	--
Tristan da Cunha – ZD9ZS; 2-man team	09 Sept – 03 Oct	132	23-07	22-08	22-09	18-12	11-22	12-21	13-19	14-17
Luxembourg – LX/PA3EWP, etc. 4 PA ops	10 – 17 Sept	44	23-07	21-09	21-07	11-00	12-22	13-20	15-19	16-18
Papua New Guinea – P29VCX; 3-man team	11 – 14 Sept	283	08-12	07-13	07-13	04-17	13-04	13-03	14-00	21-00
Chatham Is – ZL7X; 4 JA ops, all modes	11 – 16 Sept	230	05-12	03-13	03-13	23-13	18-05	18-03	19-01	20-00
French Polynesia – FO/DF1YP, holiday style	11 Sept – 08 Oct	243	03-12	02-13	02-13	15-13	15-07	15-04	16-02	16-01
Norfolk Is – VK9NT; 4 VK operators	12 – 21 Sept	250	06-12	05-13	05-13	01-15	12-05	19-03	19-01	20-00
Rotuma – 3D2AG/p; **	12 – 26 Sept	263	--	04-14	04-14	00-15	13-05	13-03	18-01	18-00
Papua New Guinea – P29NI; 3-man team, **	15 – 20 Sept	283	08-12	07-13	07-13	04-17	12-04	13-03	14-01	20-00
Dodecanese – SV5/PA1FJ; all modes	18 – 27 Sept	49	23-05	21-07	21-07	11-03	12-21	12-20	14-18	15-17
Malta – 9H3JA; by EA5IDQ, holiday style	18 – 25 Sept	55	--	21-08	20-08	11-05	11-01	12-22	13-21	15-18
Christmas Is – VK9AN; by N7QT, all modes	18 Sept – 02 Oct	334	1100	11-12	10-12	12-18	13-01	14-01	15-19	16-18
Papua New Guinea – P29VCX; **, 3-op team	21 – 25 Sept	283	08-12	07-13	06-13	03-17	13-02	13-02	20-01	20-23
Saba & Sint Eustatius – PJ5/OK6DJ, etc.	23 Sept – 03 Oct	114	22-12	00-24	00-24	11-03	12-01	12-23	13-23	15-20
Nepal – 9N7CJ; by F3CJ (call sign requested)	23 Sept – 05 Nov	13	2400	23-01	23-01	11-03	12-16	13-15	13-14	13-14
Papua New Guinea – P29NI; 3-man team, **	25 – 30 Sept	283	08-12	07-13	06-13	03-17	13-02	13-02	20-01	20-23
Bhutan – A52YY; by OH2YY, ++	26 Sept – 02 Oct	8	--	23-00	23-00	11-03	12-16	13-15	13-14	13-14
Tanzania – 5H1MD; by IZ1MHY, all modes	28 Sept – 10 Oct	83	23-04	22-05	22-05	18-05	11-01	12-00	13-22	15-20
Nauru – C21GC; by LZ1GC, all modes	28 Sept – 14 Oct	279	06-12	05-13	05-14	01-16	13-02	14-01	19-00	20-22
Saba & Sint Eustatius – PJ6/G4IUF, all modes	29 Sept – 02 Nov	114	21-12	00-24	00-24	11-02	12-01	13-23	14-22	15-19

Updated 28 August based on the 27 August QRZ DX and the NG3K DX Page, <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.

-- AUGUST SOLAR ACTIVITY --

The Solar Flux ranged from 103 to 168, with a mean value of 124.7 (vs. 114.8 for August 2013 and 115.7 for August 2012), and the A_p index was ≥ 7 on 19 days. The sunspot number through 30 August ranged from 64 to 165, with a mean of 108.5. A total of five M-class and 131 C-class flares occurred through 30 August.

Quiet conditions were interrupted by recurrent disturbed conditions 01-05, 08, 10-12, 19-21 and 27-31 August.

-- SEPTEMBER FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be low with M-class flares (R1-R2, Minor to Moderate radio blackouts) 01-03 September as Regions 2146, 2149 and 2151 transit across the visible disk. From 04-30 September very low to low levels are expected.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be normal to moderate levels. A chance for high levels exists through 04 September and again from 08-10 and 24-29 September due to coronal hole high speed stream (CH HSS) influence.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at unsettled to active conditions through 02 September and from 06-08, 13 and 24-29 September.

The Solar Flux should range from 120-145 and average 131.3 during September.

(From NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts, 25 August 2014, NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table, 25 August 2014, and 45 Day AP Forecast, USAF, 25 August 2014.)

-- NAVASSA IS COMING! --

Permission has been granted for a DXpedition to operate from KP1-Navassa Island, #2 on the Most Wanted Survey, in the next 18 months.

MAJOR CONTESTS DURING AUGUST

Contest/Special Event	Begin-End Times/Dates	Bands/Modes	QSO With	Exchange
All-Asian DX Contest	0000Z 06 Sep 2400Z 07 Sep	80 – 10 Meters SSB Only	Asian Stations (Indonesia and the Philippines are in Oceania)	RS, Age of operator
Russian <i>Radio</i> RTTY WW Contest	0000Z 06 Sep 2400Z 06 Sep	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, CQ Zone
Worked All Europe DX Contest	0000Z 13 Sep 2359Z 14 Sep	80 – 10 Meters SSB Only	European stations; see www.waedc.de for QTC procedure	RS, serial
ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z 13 Sep 0259Z 15 Sep	6 Meters and Up SSB, CW, Digi	Anyone, Anywhere	4-character Grid square
Scandinavian Activity Contest	1200Z 20 Sep 1159Z 21 Sep	80 – 10 Meters CW Only	Scandinavian stations	RST, serial
CQ WW RTTY Contest	0000Z 27 Sep 2359Z 28 Sep	80 – 10 Meters RTTY Only	Anyone, Anywhere	RST, CQ Zone, State

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 international contest of at least 24-hour duration are shown, i.e. state QSO parties, miscellaneous sprints, etc. are not shown. See <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/Contest%20Corral%201409.pdf> for the complete list of some 41 contests/events that will be on during September.

POWAY, from page 1

Counsel Chris Imlay-W3KD reported that he'd been in contact with attorney Fred Hopengarten-K1VR, on behalf of Howard Groveman-W6HDG, of Poway, who sought to install a 59-foot crank-up antenna support structure. At the time Poway's ordinance set a maximum height of 35 feet and required a variance for anything taller, precluding Groveman's proposed antenna system.

According to the *Pomerado* account, the option that the city council ultimately approved had been tweaked a bit from the version council members had received earlier from city staffers. That option would have required notification only to abutting property owners. This was expanded to a 250-foot radius, Dreyer's report said, adding that applicants would be responsible for mailing the notices. The notices would alert neighbors that an antenna would be erected, but neighbors would have no legal standing to impede or block construction as long as the proposed structure met the requirements of the city's ordinances.

Installing an antenna support structure taller than 65 feet would require a new antenna permit and the approval of City Council. The Council asked for a report in one year regarding how the new procedures are working.

The Poway City Council had selected the two possible options following a May 6 public hearing attended by representatives of the city's ham radio population and a few residents who question whether tall antenna structures were need-

ed, and whether they might affect property values.

PARS worked for more than 2 years with the city council to encourage adoption of an Amateur Radio-friendly antenna ordinance.

(From *ARRL Letter*, 14 August 2014)

-- ICOM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY RADIO --

In commemoration of its 50th Anniversary, ICOM displayed its pre-release version of its IC-7850 at the Tokyo Hamfair 2014. The IC-7850 "collector's piece" will be produced in very limited numbers in early 2015.

Based on the benchmark IC-7800, the IC-7850 will share many similarities with the 7800. Although using a similar layout, interface and platform, RF circuitry, parts of the logic section and the I/O interfaces have been improved. The receive circuit is also redesigned to have the best industry class 1st LO phase noise performance and the Reciprocal Mixing Dynamic Range performance now has a 20 dB improvement over the IC-7800. As the radio has two receivers, two spectrum scopes can be displayed on the front panel's LCD display.

No price is mentioned for this limited edition radio but, as the IC-7800 now costs about \$10,000, it's a fair guess that the commemorative IC-7850 will be significantly higher in price.

(From *Southgate Amateur Radio News*, 26 August 2014)

There are no riches above a sound body.

-- SURPLUS TOWER FOR SALE --



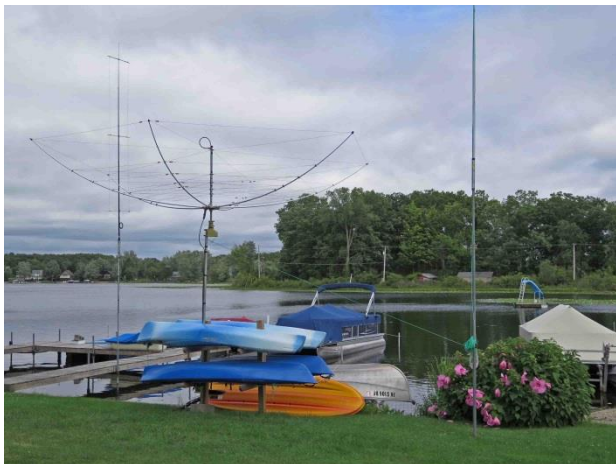
This 5-ton trailer mounted military microwave tower manufactured by (now defunct) Tri-Ex Tower Corporation is on the market for an opening bid of \$25, but apparently no bidders. It extends hydraulically up to \pm 100'. Bidding closes at 5 PM EST 02 September, so hurry and snatch up this baby over in Huntsville, Alabama!!

See www.governmentliquidation.com

-- HAMS HAVING FUN! --

It seems that way too many hams these days have a license in their pocket, but they just do not make use of that license. Their reasons for such inactivity may vary, but it's refreshing to know that some hams are actively having fun.

TARC member Stan Robinson-W9SMR is a dedicated PSK31 operator. This summer he teamed up with his buddy Bob Billingsley-KC9UR for another "pontoon portable" PSK31 operation 19-20 August from Stan's pontoon boat on Round Lake in the northeastern corner of Indiana. They had a variety of antennas both on shore and out in the lake.



On the left is a double-bay 6-meter vertical antenna. In the center is Stan's new Hex Beam mounted on a 10 ft pole. The mast on the right supports a 40m, 30m, 20m, 15m dipole. After

the operation, the Hex Beam was moved to a 48' self-supporting tower at Stan's QTH.



Here's Bob adjusting the antenna matching network for the floating 20-meter phased array which aimed NE to Europe and switched 180 degrees to cover SW USA.



Here's Bob on the left and Stan on the right, operating a pair of Kenwood TS-590S transceivers. The Dynamic Duo had to wrap the cockpit of the pontoon boat in plastic when the weather turned sour.

KC9UR

Pontoon Portable

A.P.E. - August PSK-31 Expedition
PENN OHIO DX SOCIETY - PODXS 070

Kenwood TS-590S (Two) / 18' & 31' Verticals

Stan W9SMR
PODXS #1611
LONP #234

Bob KC9UR
PODXS #1620
LONP # 241

Round Lake, Fremont, IN, Steuben Co. EN71nr

QSO with	MM-DD-YY	UTC	Band	Mode	RST
-	-	:			

Tnx FB QSO, 73 Bob / Stan

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	3 QCWA, 11:15 @ Hibachi Grill Buffet Bird Bay Plaza, 41 By- pass	TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	5 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	6
7	8 DARN Emer- gency Net @ 11 AM Starts on NI4CE re- peater 145.430	9 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	10 TARC Meet- ing @ 7 PM, Coast Guard Training Center	11 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	12 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	13 TARC VE Session @ 10:00 AM, Venice Library
14	15	16 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	17	18 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	19 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	20
21	22	23 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr	24	25 TARC Net @ 7:30 PM, W4AC Repeater 146.805	26 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM	27
28	29	30 Breakfast @ Peach's, ± 7:00 AM 440 Net @ 7:30 PM, 444.100 Rptr				

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 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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Circulation: San Yoder-K3SY

2013 TARC Officers

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