

Newsletter of the TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TARC), Venice, FI

THE COMMUNICATOR

Serving the Communities of Sarasota, Nokomis, Venice, Englewood, and North Port.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34273



Presidents Message... KN4BAR

Pretty soon we will start welcoming back our seasonal club members as they begin arriving in October. They may be smarter than us full time residents as that is about when the outdoor weather becomes tolerable again. Speaking of seasonal members, I was surprised to learn that only 33 of our 172 club members, or 19%, are seasonal residents. I always thought we had more.

American philosopher George Santayana wrote in a 1905 story, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." There is truth in these words and many of us are familiar with this



quote in one of its many variations that have evolved over the decades. Last year we saw the North Port Amateur Radio Club dissolved, its call sign retired, and its equipment dispersed to other nonprofit entities in the area. This is how

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Welcome New Members

Name	Call Sign	Class	Membership	Date Joined
Rick Mikluscak	KQ4UMP	Tech	First Year	8/23/24
Michael Pryon	KQ4UNP	Tech	First Year	8/16/24
Jason Higgins	KQ4RWE	Tech	Member	7/28/24
Alex Szkabarnicki	VA3CKI	Adv	Member	7/17/24
Bill Richards	KQ4TUN	Tech	First Year	7/13/24

Upcoming Events

- 9/11/24 - September Meeting
- 9/11/24 - John McEnerney - European Vacation Recap
- 10/9/24 - October Meeting
- 10/9/24 - Cathy Duff SCSO - Crime and Fraud Prevention
- 10/12/24 - Ham Radio at the Library

Dits, Dues, and Dots...

Is your club membership information current?

The club tries very hard to keep accurate records of its members. The most important piece of information is the date you last paid your annual membership dues. But beyond that, your current mailing and email addresses, phone number, license class, and ARRL membership status are all equally important. As an ARRL affiliated club it is very important that we know your membership status since we are required to have a membership of at least 50% ARRL members. If you visit the [Members Only page](#) on our website, you will be able



time to
UPDATE

to look up your club membership information and verify its accuracy. You can't make any changes yourself. If anything needs to be changed, then send me an email as I am currently the membership coordinator for the club. I am looking for a qualified replacement if anybody would like the job?

73, Paul KN4BAR

HOW TO PAY YOUR CLUB DUES:

As a reminder, TARC has a tiered structure for yearly membership dues which are \$25 per year. Membership payments are due on January 1 each year. There is a 60-day grace period. If dues are not paid by March 1, you are automatically removed from the roster. If you join the club the first time after June 1, the fee is only \$13 and your next payment is due on January 1 for the next full year.

Dues can be paid by mail, in person, or online by:

[<CLICKING HERE>](#)

Presidents Message *(continued)*

(continued from Page 1)

TARC acquired a North Port Repeater. The club had existed for decades but in recent years its membership declined and there were no members interested in taking on the leadership responsibility of club officers and directors. I am sorry to report that the Sarasota club may be heading in this direction as well. Its membership has declined from over 120, 2 years ago to only 61 members today. The 2024 election of officers

and directors involved some arm twisting and begging to get a slate of candidates.

Not that TARC is in much better shape either. Yes, our membership numbers are up year over year, but we also had to engage in some arm twisting, and yes, begging to come up with a full slate of candidates for our own 2024 election of officers and directors. Don't get me wrong. TARC is still a vibrant and active club of amateur radio operators

enjoying their hobby and each other's company. Participation in social and operating event activities couldn't be better. BUT, we have elections coming up again in December and I fear that without active and involved participation from qualified club members in leadership positions that we may be starting down the road of decline. Please consider being one of the new group of TARC leaders that take our great club forward in 2025.

73, Paul KN4BAR

Chasing DX CQ DX CQ DX...**DX Editor: Tony DiCenzo, KX1G
KX1G@ARRL.NET****Announced Top-100 DXPEDITIONS scheduled in September 2024**

DATES	ENTITY	CALL-SIGN	QSL INFO	INFO
Aug 26 - Sept 5	St. Paul is #52	CY9C & CY9R	LoTW or WA4DAN Direct	160-6m; CW SSB FT8 RTTY + EME SAT
Aug 23 - Sept 30	Tristan da Cunha #58	ZD9GJ	LoTW	6m; mainly EME, some SSB FT8; dates tentative
Sept 2 - 16	American Samoa #75	KH8T	M0URX	80-10m, perhaps 160 & 60m; CW SSB FT8; 2 Stations
Sept 5-15	Pitcairn #66	VP6WR	LoTW; M0URX OQRS	80-100m; SSB FT8, perhaps CW

For the latest info always check **Announced DX Operations** at: <https://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

Come Fall, more DX on the horizon

I hope you all had a good Summer break. DX was there for the taking, even if there were many days of moderate to severe blackouts. We DXers are a hearty bunch and work around them, right?

Studying DX History

I received a couple of emails regarding Lord Howe prefix changing to VK2. But you knew that because you read it here. Chasing DX you have a great opportunity to dive into history of an entity. My latest discovery is that Rumania became Romania after WWII.

Question of the Month for September 2024:

Have you ever requested a DXCC award through Log-book of the World (LoTW)? If so, which? If not, why not?

DX Contests in September

Sept 7-8: All Asian DX Contest, SSB
 Sept 14-15: Worked All Europe, SSB
 Sept 14 1500-1800Z: Africa FT4 DX
 Sept 28-29: CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.htm>

So, what's the result of following Chasing DX?

If you work all the DX Top 100 entities mentioned in the Chasing DX issues from Sept 2023 to Sept 2024 you will have worked 25 of the ClubLogTop 100 entities. That would be a pretty good start for any fledgling DXer.

Answer to the Question of the Month for July/August 2024

The two part question this month was:

1.) Did you work FT4GL? FT8 and/or SSB?

There were over 10,000 FT8 contacts made with FT4GL in North America, but only 789 Phone, so chances are pretty good that you worked them on FT8. Only 1 in 10 was SSB.

2) What DX Awards will you be working on in July and August?

Responses ranged from the DX Marathon to filling in band totals. Glorioso Island (FT4/G) is/was the #7 most wanted, so congrats if you worked them.

Got a suggestion or question for Chasing DX??

Please send it to KX1G@ARRL.NET.

73! -KX1G



Automatic Satellite Tracking Ground Station, Brian Darley, KM4YHZ, Ft Myers Amateur Radio Club

ARRL Club Grant Request Made

The club applied for an ARRL Club Grant in July for \$11,200 to fund the building of a primary satellite tracking ground station similar to the one pictured above and a ham radio station for use at Pine View School. The Club Grant awards won't be announced until November so a fall back contact method is required. The Ft. Myers club has agreed to provide their tracking station and an experienced operator to support an ARISS contact if needed.



ARRISS

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

Pine View School to Make ARISS Contact in Spring 2025

Pine View School (PVS) for the Gifted in Osprey was selected by the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARRISS) organization to participate in an ARISS contact mission sometime in the Spring 2025. The school's STEM curriculum will be weighted to space and ISS related topics in the Fall 2024. PVS has selected the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club to be their ham radio support team for making this contact. Tom KE4RXM and Paul KN4BAR worked with the PVS STEM Director, Marie Rosander to develop an Equipment Plan required by ARISS to gain approval for a direct ISS contact from the PVS campus. As a part of this project we hope to provide PVS with an IC-7300 based ham radio



station and training and support to get as many students, faculty, and parents (if interested) an FCC amateur radio Technician Class operating license this Fall. We have applied for an ARRL Club Grant to do this.

73, Paul KN4BAR

Monthly Testing Sessions

As a reminder to all members, TARC offers Monthly testing opportunities at the Venice Library. These testing opportunities take place the second Saturday of every month. Not only do these sessions provide a great way to

get new Hams involved, but to further the education of current Hams. Keep a look out in the October issue for great incentives to current club members to upgrade thier license.

-Chris Stape, K4PTS

[Click here to learn more](#)

Club Business and News

TARC 2024-25 Budget Ready for Vote

The board of directors approved an \$11,202 club budget for the period Oct 2024 thru September 2025. Members can view the budget on our website at this link:

<https://tamiamiarc.org/tarc/wp-content/uploads/Budget-2025.pdf>

Any comments or questions regarding the budget can be emailed to the board of directors at:

BoardofDirectors@tarc-venicefl.groups.io

A vote from the membership will be called for at the September club meeting to approve this budget.

73, Paul KN4BAR

Englewood Antenna Repairs Completed



The antenna for the 146.805 repeater located at the Englewood repeater site was damaged during hurricane Ian in 2022. The club received an insurance payout for the antenna, and purchased a new, much more robust, Sinclair antenna earlier this year.

On Tuesday, August 20 th , John and Jared Chaput of J.C. Tower

Services came over from Lake Placid to install the new antenna. The old antenna was removed and lowered to the ground, where the full extent of the damage was revealed. In addition to a significant bend in the antenna mast, at least one of the dipole elements was broken. The new antenna was carefully raised

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Election of Vice President

On August 12, 2024, Steve KN-4NFX resigned,. effective immediately, as TARC Vice President due to personal and medical issues. We thank Steve for his 8 months of service as the club Vice President and wish him well with a speedy resolution of his issues. The board of directors has decided to place current director Dwight Sullivan, KT4DDS in nomination as the new club Vice President to serve out the remainder of the 2024 term of office. At the club's September 11th membership meeting we will call for other candidate names to be placed in nomination for the office and each candidate will be given an opportunity to address the membership and answer any questions they may have. An election vote of the membership then present will be held at this meeting per the club's bylaws.

73, Paul KN4BAR

Want to share something with the club?

The Communicator is a publication by the club for the club. If you have something you would like to share about the Amateur Radio hobby or a Radio related event to recap, please send it to the Editor, by [<Clicking Here>](#). Your contributions will continue to make this publication a resource to our club.

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into position and was mounted to the side of the tower at 190 feet. This mounting position, with the mast secured to the tower at the top and the bottom of the antenna, should protect the antenna from damage in any storm that

doesn't knock the tower down. Informal testing and signal reports from club members indicate that the new antenna is working better than the old one, with much stronger signals received at several locations along the Suncoast.

-Steve Phillips, NS4P

Photos Provided by Steve (NS4P) & Frank (W2XYZ)



TARC would like to extend a special thank you to John(KK4LI) & Jared (KK4CYG) Chaput of J.C. Tower Services for their professionalism in this replacement project.

Join us for Breakfast

- Tuesday's at Peach's
- Friday at Perkin's,
- Wednesday on Zoom.
- Saturday at Venice DAV

For more Information check out the club calendar on Page 9

Club POTA Activation

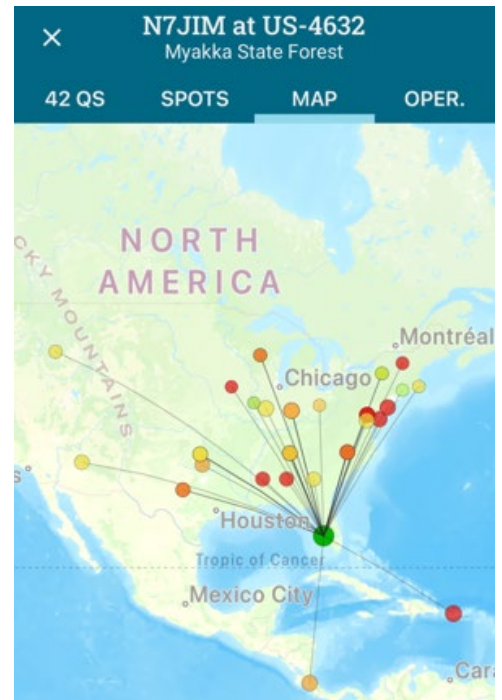
Paul organized a club gathering on August 18th at Myakka State Forest, US-4632. A total of five members attended, Paul Nienaber KN4BAR, Jim Miller N7JIM and demonstrated POTA operations and answered questions about portable operating.

Jim Miller arrived early and started activating at 8:10am and had 42 QSOs in 50 minutes including a path to park in the Washington DC area there was a 5-fer. The

operator N2NWK regularly activates in this location where he is within 100 feet of 5 parks at once. One call and you get credit for 5 parks.

While operating a nice buck walked right by and seemed interested in the hobby. I have been using the Ham2k PoLo phone app to log my contacts along with a small Bluetooth folding keyboard.

-Jim Miller, N7JIM



Who is this New Editor?

Thank you all for the warm welcomes into this role as the new editor for "The Communicator". I wanted to just take a moment and small corner to introduce myself and give a cliff note biography as to who this young and bearded "kid" is and where I came from. Originally from the Pittsburgh re-

gion I moved to FL in 2012 and got started in Ham radio in 2022. I have spent over half of my life participating in Emergency Services in some form from Fire/EMS to Dispatch, so EmComm is my passion in the hobby. Outside of amateur radio I am a Production Director for a church

in SRQ, and have a passion for cooking, BBQ to be specific. I look forward to helping keep the club informed and maybe even a bit educated as I develop my own column in the coming months. Thank you again for the warm welcomes.

-Chris Stape, K4PTS

Got Gear?

Club member Tom KE4RXM recently launched a Trader's Net. The Tamiami Tradeshow runs Tuesday nights, 8pm, in between the Sarasota and Manatee nets.

The planned 1st upgrade phase of this net has launched; a companion website, www.tamiami-tradeshow.net. This website showcases all items that have been advertised on-air, as well as gear from Tom's extensive inventory of gear, in addition to /sk or estate listings via outside sources. Anyone can submit items to sell on the site, on-air, via a form online, or by simply emailing him at tom@tamiami-tradeshow.net. He will generate a listing containing information as provided by the seller, and may add details such as testimonials, manufacturer website links, etc. Most importantly, buyers see the listings, contact the sellers directly, and begin their deal-making with contact links within each listing. Listing on the site is free, and Tom will do it automatically after each net. These are tools to connect buyers and sellers only. No transactions are completed via the website, and no fees, commissions, profits, or other pecuniary elements exist. The website is a service to the local community. Visit the website 24 hours a day, and join us every Tuesday night at 8pm on the TARC Englewood repeater.

-Tom Waters, KE4RXM

EARS Foxhunt Event

The fourth EARS foxhunt was conducted on August 3. Fox Hunters gathered at Tringali Park at 9:00 am for a 9:30 start.

Despite the threat of Tropical storm Debby, the weather turned out great and all the entrants eventually found the "fox". Participants were briefed on safety, and fox hunting "tips". A map which covered the "fox" location was provided. The fox was turned on at 9:36 am, and in a virtual tie, teams consisting of KN4BAR, Paul and his XYL Patty, and W4RFV, Tony, with KE4VEM, Matthew and his daughter Sarah located the fox at 10:18 am. Very impressive!

The fox was located at the Englewood Sports Complex, located off of River Road in South Sarasota County, about 4 miles from



Pictured: Sarah, KN4BAR, W4RFV, KN4BKE, KE4VEM

the Tringali Park start point. In all, 10 operators/team helpers participated in the hunt": KN4RKE, KM4GX, K7WWR, W4RFV, KN4YIU, KN4YIV, KE4VEM and daughter Sarah, and KN4BAR with XYL Patty. The club is planning a late September Fox Hunt with a "scavenger" format. More details to come!

-Bob McAlister, KN4RKE

Art Wester N4NUM Recovering Nicely!

Art K4NUM was the club secretary from July 2023 thru April

2024 when we was forced to resign his position due to health issues. Pictured here is Tom KE4RXM giving a certificate of appreciation to Art at a Perkin's breakfast on June 21st. Art had just begun immunotherapy for his condition at this time. We are so pleased to report that he has continued to improve and we hope to see him again soon at club meetings and events.



73, Paul KN4BAR

Full Club Calendar

TARC MEETINGS	Scheduled	Time	Location	Next Upcoming:
Board of Directors	1st Saturday	1300	Zoom	September 7th
General Membership	2nd Wednesday	1830	Venice Presbyterian Church	September 11th
TARC Annual Meeting	Annually	1830	During The December Meeting	December 11th
Nets				
North Port Diehards*	Mondays	2000	TARC 147.120 Repeater	
TARC DMR Net	Tuesdays	1930	TARC DMR TG 310442	
Tamiami Tradeshow	Tuesdays	2000	TARC 146.805 Repeater	
TARC 10m HF Net	Wednesdays	1930	28.460 +/- QRM 10m**	
Greybeard Knuckle Draggers *	Thursdays	1700	7.215 (40m LSB)	
TARC 2m Chat Net	Thursdays	1930	TARC 146.805 Repeater	
Fellowship				
Breakfast	Tuesdays	0600	Peach's In Venice	
Breakfast	Wednesdays	1100	Zoom	
Breakfast	Fridays	0900	Perkins in Venice	
Breakfast	Saturdays	0930	DAV in Venice	
Other Interests/Nets				
Quarter Century Wireless Club	1st Monday	1100	Buffet City on Bee Ridge	Contact N4ZM
TARC VE Licensure Testing	2nd Saturday	1000	Venice Library	September 14th
DARN Net	2nd Monday	1100	NI4CE Repeater (145.430)	
SERC Swap 'n Shop Net	Mondays	2000	N4SER Repeater (146.730 or 145.130)	
EARS 2m Chat Net	Tuesdays	1900	K8ONV Repeater (146.865)	
MARCI Trader's Net	Wednesdays	2000	K4GG Repeater (146.820)	
HAMCATION	2nd Weekend in Feb		Orlando Fairgrounds	February 8/9, 2025
HAMVENTION	2rd Weeknd in May		Xenia (Dayton), Ohio	May 16-18, 2025
Winter Field Day	4th Weekend in Jan		Venice Coast Guard Station	January 25/26, 2025
ARRL Field Day	4th Weekend in June		Venice Coast Guard Station	June 28/29, 2025
*Former Members of the NPARC	**Technician Class Portion of the 10m Band	Please Submit any changes or event information to the Editor via email: communicator@tamiamiarc.org		

Stay Up-To-Date with whats going on!

Make sure to join our Groups.io for daily updates on what is going on within TARC. [CLICK HERE](#) to join.

Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

The Tamiami Amateur Radio club was organized in 1960 to serve the Venice and surrounding area with emergency communications. The founders of our club realized that it is of paramount importance to organize the amateur radio operators in the area, to promote training and provide community service. We have had a proud history.

Following Hurricane Donna of 1960, a number of the radio amateurs in the Venice area decided to unite into a formal club. At 7:30 PM on 06 October 1960, twenty interested parties met at the Sun-Shine Kitchen, and E. B. Roberts was elected as temporary chairman. During the two-hour gathering, a committee consisting of Joe Barone, P. D. Baird and Martin Sharp was appointed to study and draw up bylaws for the organization.

In January 1985 the TARC was incorporated under the laws of Florida as a not-for-profit corporation and, in 2001, as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the IRS.

Club Repeaters

DMR Repeater - 444.100 MHz (+) Color Code 1 - TARC Private Talk Group (TG) 310442. TS-1 for TG 310442, 2 and 9. Use TS-2 for ALL other possible Brandmeister TGs available dynamically.

Analog 2m Repeater - 146.805 MHz (-) PL 100Hz — EchoLink W4AC-R (Node# 513309)

+++++QRT AS OF 8/29/24, FOR ANTENNA REPAIRS+++++

Dual Mode Yaesu System Fusion (YSF) / Analog 2m Repeater 147.120 MHz (+) PL 136.5Hz (encode AND squelch) — This repeater can be accessed using standard analog radios, OR Yaesu C4FM Radios and will auto-detect what mode is being received (AMS) so there are no special settings for the end-user to access it.

+++++CURRENTLY OUT FOR REPAIR+++++

ALL TARC Repeaters bear the FCC Callsign of W4AC. Repeater trustee is Paul KN4BAR.

THE COMMUNICATOR is a publication of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club (TARC). It is published monthly; except during the summer months, the July and August issues will be combined. The Communicator is forwarded to all members via e-mail, and is available for viewing on the club's web site - www.tamiamiarc.org

Editor - Chris Stape - K4PTS, who acknowledges and thanks contributing writers and photographers.

2024 TARC Officers:

President	Paul Nienaber	KN4BAR	paul9aber@gmail.com
Vice President	OPEN POSITION		
Secretary	Randy Aitken	KO4PIV	secretary@tamiamiarc.org
Treasurer	Bob McAlister	KN4RKE	treasurer@tamiamiarc.org

Directors:

Brian Johnson	W1JBD	odyssey922@earthlink.net
Steve Phillips	NS4P	sphillips3@gmail.com
Tom Shrilla	W8QJF	tshrilla@gmail.com
Dwight Sullivan	KT4DDS	dwrightsull@gmail.com
Gary Youngberg	W8SKI	gary.kb8ski@juno.com

Club Dues

Regular Member: \$25.⁰⁰/year
 **After 7/1 - \$12.⁰⁰ to end of year
 **After 10/31 - \$25.⁰⁰ thru end of next year

Family Membership: \$30.⁰⁰/year.

Non-Voting Student: \$5.⁰⁰/year.

Please Note: After two month grace period thru Feb., all non-renewals will be removed from active status.

TARC Website: www.tamiamiarc.org **Contact:** webmaster@tamiamiarc.org
General Club Info Contact the Secretary: secretary@tamiamiarc.org