

THE COMMUNICATOR

President's Message ...



Everything old is new again. **The Communicator** as a magazine style publication is back and we have a new editor....me. Hop AC8NS and Kent W4KJJ volunteered at the March meeting to "help" publish the club's newsletter. Since then, Kent has reconsidered his offer and Hop had no interest in being the editor/publisher of the newsletter. He just wanted to help, so he is now the co-editor of the newsletter helping with proof reading and content

layout. We will be preserving a long standing tradition of having a club newsletter.

Therefore, I am prematurely announcing that this is my last term as club president and until over come by other life events I will remain as the editor.

This means that everyone with an interest in managing the club's affairs can now start jockeying, politicking, or ducking, and hiding as the case may be. Great organizations doing great things don't just happen. Someone has to make things happen. A club is just a reflection of its membership.

I'd like to spend the rest of my time in leadership working on restructuring the club's meetings. I mentioned last month that an article in QST caught my eye: The March

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Upcoming Events

◆ [Meeting 6:30 pm Wed. 4/9/25](#)

Program: Paul White from MARCI to give a presentation on POTA

◆ [Shark's Tooth Festival 4/12&13/25](#)

◆ [Florida QSO Party 4/27&28/25](#)

Welcome New Members

3/10/25	Associate	Paul Ernst	none	none
3/1/25	First Year	Shane Hartman	Technician	KQ4ZPE
2/23/25	First Year	Curtis Craig	Technician	KR4AMK
2/6/25	First Year	Marie Rosander	Technician	KQ4ZVO
2/1/25	First Year	David Brain	General	KR4BDF
2/2/25	Member	James Middendorf	General	KR4ANA

Dits, Dues, and Dots...

time to
UPDATE



155 Members Strong
As of 3/1/25

TARC Contact Emails

- Board of Directors
bod@tamiamiarc.org
- Secretary
secretary@tamiamiarc.org
- Treasurer
treasurer@tamiamiarc.org
- Volunteer Examiner Team
VE-team@tamiamiarc.org
- Ask Elmer ham assistance
askelmer@tamiamiarc.org
- The Communicator submissions
communicator@tamiamiarc.org
- Quartermaster (equipment mgr)
quartermaster@tamiamiarc.org
- Librarian (ham book library)
librarian@tamiamiarc.org
- Membership Coordinator
membership@tamiamiarc.org
- Webmaster—report a problem
websupport@tamiamiarc.org

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 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 an email to the Membership Coordinator for the club.

membership@tamiamiarc.org

The TARC Membership Coordinator is Nancy N4ZM

The TARC Membership roster was purged on March 21st of 44 names for non-payment of dues.

(If you need to know the page password, please contact [Paul, KN4BAR](#) for the page access password)

President's Message (cont'd)

edition of QST had an article from our ARRL CEO David Minister NA2AA titled, "A Callout to Radio Clubs". Please send me or anyone on the board any thoughts or ideas you may have about how to better use our monthly meeting times for less "business" and more "hamming".

As a first step in this process, I am creating a standing page in the Communicator for providing "Committee Reports" that have been given verbally at each club meeting. Rather than spending 10 or 15 minutes of valuable "together time" I will be asking committee chairs to send me a short 2 or 3 sentence update each month about their committees status. If something special or needing

discussion does happen than we put it back in the meeting agenda. Otherwise everyone can get their committee information by reading **The Communicator** each month. We have a holiday party planner to take Patti's place. John N3PQD has volunteered to plan our party for 2025.

It came right down to the wire almost but the Venice Main Street Assoc finally notified us of a free booth space at the April 12&13 Shark's Tooth Festival. Thanks to a few swift on their feet club members, we were able to obtain the K4S Special Event Station call sign for the event. Be sure to attend the April 9th club meeting for details and to sign up for a shift.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sunshine
Shaun KQ4YAX

VE Testing
Steve NS4P

Last Test Date: 3/8/25
Number tested: 6
Passed: 6
New Members: 0
Member Upgrades: 0
Next Test Date: 4/12/25

QCWA Liaison
AI KOAL

Chapter 53 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) meets for lunch at 11AM on the first Monday of each month at Denny's on Bee Ridge in Sarasota. You do not need to be a member of QCWA to attend and your "Plus 1" is welcome. There is an interesting program along with an excellent meal and fellowship. (No meeting June to September). For more information

Membership
Nancy N4ZM

Total Membership:..... 155
127 Regular Members
2 Associate Members
10 First Year Members
16 Life Members

45 names were removed from the club membership roster on 3/22/25 for non-payment of dues.

Public Information Officer
OPEN POSOTION

Repeater / Technical
Frank W2XYZ

<https://tamiamiarc.org/tarc-repeaters/>

Remote Station
Tom W8QJF

<https://tamiamiarc.org/club-remote-hf-station/>

Net Manager
Paul KN4BAR

Thanks to our regular 2 meter net controllers Tony W4RFV, Steve KN4NFX, and Gerard KQ4DVD for keeping a great rotating schedule. I'm sure Frank W2ZYZ and Steve NS4P would like to have occasional guest net controls to relieve them on the Tuesday DMR and Wednesday 10 meter nets.

3rd Annual TARC BBQ&Q Draws 50 Attendees

CONTENT NEEDED

With our large club membership representing years and years of professional experience in many different industries and locations, there should not be shortage of great articles submitted to *The Communicator* for publication in our monthly club newsletter.

BUT, There is!

Ham etiquette says no social issues, no religion, and no politics make for good ham discussion. This leaves a huge amount of other good ham related stuff to be talked about.

Please give some thought to writing up something whether it be technical, operating, DX related or just good ham humor. Articles can be 50 words or 500 words or more and anything in between.

Pictures are always a good idea. Some of our members don't read so they only look at the pictures!

Please send you pictures, jokes, one-liners and short stories to

communicaitor@tamiamiarc.org

By all reports, a great time was had by all! Around 50 club members and their guests descended on Oscar Shearer State Park in the Nokomis on Saturday, March 1st for the 3rd Annual TARC BBQ&Q. Why the second Q? It stands for QSOs! Since this location is a valid Parks on the Air (POTA) site, we have traditionally set up a POTA station to activate the park during our picnic. This gives us a great way to introduce club members to the joys of POTA

operation. This year was especially noteworthy as club member Jonathan W4OMX made his 100th activation from Oscar Sherer during the picnic!



Proud Pit Master Chip W0Os Serves up



TARC to Operate as W4AC for Florida QSO Party

Once again TARC will use Al's K0AL cottage in Nokomis to operate as a club station during the Florida QSO Party, April 26 & 27, 2025. More information and a sign up sheet to work operating and logging shifts during the event will be available at the April 9th club meeting.

DX Editor: Tony DiCenzo, KX1G

Email: KX1G@ARRL.NET

Answer to the Question of the Month for March 2025

The F region of the ionosphere is home to the F layer of ionization. There are two F levels in the region. The F 1 layer (aka as a region) is the lower sector and exists from about 150 to 220 km (100 to 140 miles) above the surface of the Earth. The F 2 is the higher layer and exists from about 220 to 800 km (140 to 500 miles) above the surface of the Earth. The F 2 layer is the principal reflecting layer for HF radio communications during both day and night.

Two parts to this month's question:

One, what happens to the F 1 layer at night, and what is the effect? (Hint: You can hear Boston radio station WBZ in Chicago at some time of the day.) **Answer:** The F 1 layer ionization disappears, and signals bounce off the higher F 2 layer, increasing the distance you can work.

Two, what are the names of the levels of the ionosphere? **Answer:** Troposphere, Stratosphere, Mesosphere, E, Thermosphere, F 1, F 2

Question of the month for April 2025

Summer is right around the corner and your editor will be heading north next month and taking a break for a few months. I believe it is time to test what you have learned over the last 30 months. So consider this Your ---- **FINAL EXAM** ----

As we are closing in on the clubs summer vacation, I think it is time for you to show how much you've learned about Chasing DX! How many of these 22 DXing skills mentioned in Chasing DX over the last 30 issues are you employing:

1. I use ARRL's Log Book of the World (LoTW)
2. I use a DX Cluster to check for DX spots
3. I worked one or more of the ClubLog Top 100 Most Wanted Entities list this past year!
4. I check the SFI, A and K Indices daily
5. I make QSOs in CW, SSB, and Digital modes
6. I Listen before I call a DX station
7. I listen, listen, and listen, including places where the band seems dead.
8. I look for stations that are at their Gray line and listen at my gray line
9. I check into DX nets
10. I know when to use the various frequency bands
11. I participate in DX contests
12. I know how to use ClubLOG and OQRS
13. I regularly check the website for Announced DX Operations
14. I use my radios signal processor to enhance my signal
15. I use Split operation when a DX station is using it
16. I regularly reference DX World's monthly DXpedition charts
17. I have read at least one DXing books, such as The Complete DXer.
18. I belong to a DXing Club, such as SFDXA, NCDXA
19. I maintain my station, antennas, and coax to be ready when that ATNO shows up
20. I have made at least one donation to a DXpedition effort
21. I know the 13 ways to QSL (see issue 13)
22. I regularly read the Chasing DX column in The Communicator

Now, don't go getting tense that you have not done many on the list. There is no pass/fail here. The fact that you checked the list is a good indication that you are a practicing DXer. Let your LoTW count of entities worked be one indicator of your success. If you are not doing something mentioned on the list, make it a point to start. You earned your license and are active on the bands. DXing is something we all do. Enjoy the learning, the chase, and feel good when you succeed! It's a great hobby and can last you a lifetime.

See you on the bands. 73!

Got a suggestion/question for Chasing DX?? Please send it to KX1G@ARRL.NET.

ARRL Fund Drive a Success

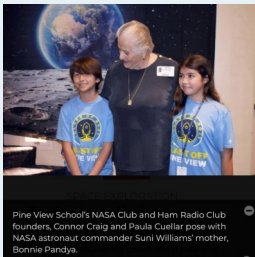
**\$500 Goal
Achieved by
March 26th**

ARRL's [Education & Technology Program](#) (ETP) provides resources and training to help teachers learn how basic electronics and radio science is applied in today's technologies, and how to bring this knowledge to their students. The PVS STEM teacher, Marie Rosander KQ4ZVO has been accepted to attend a "free" week long Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology course this summer at ARRL HQ in Connecticut. These educator expenses for travel, food, and lodging are paid from donations received by this ARRL program from donors just like us.



Tony W4RFV made a suggestion to the board of directors that TARC collect donations from members and make a club donation to the program with matching funds up to \$500. Thanks to the generosity of TARC members we collected \$745 in donations and on April 1st our treasurer, Dwight KT4DDS will send a \$1,245 check to the ARRL in TARC's name.

The PVS Kids



Pine View School's NASA Club and Ham Radio Club founders, Connor Craig and Paula Cuellar pose with NASA astronaut commander Suniti Williams' mother, Bonnie Pandya.



Pine View School Update



Following our club's support of the school's ISS educational contact mission on January 28th,

KN4BAR will be visiting the school on April 4th with the ARRL Club Grant funded HF and V/UHF equipment and supplies to get the school's ham radio station up and running and get these great kids "ON-THE-AIR" making Qs.

TARC has now adopted the new ham radio club at PVS, W4PVS.

Over 20 students have obtained their Technician Class operating license. Steve NS4P and Paul

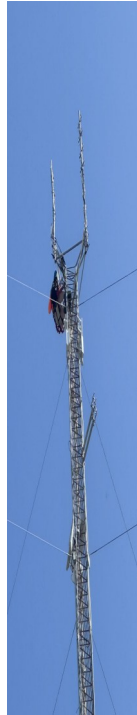


Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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 — Use TS-1 for TARC Private Talk Group (TG) 310442. and local TG 2 and 9. Use TS-2 for ALL other possible Brandmeister TGs available dynamically on TS-2.

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

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 Randy KQ4PIV. Location: 565 Paul Morris Dr., Eng-

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.

Co-Editors— Paul KN4BAR and Hop AC8NS who acknowledge and thank contributing writers and photographers.

2025 TARC Officers:

President	
Paul Nienaber	KN4BAR
Vice President	
Frank Wroblewski	W2XYZ
Secretary	
Randy Aitken	KO4PIV
secretary@tamiamiarc.org	
Treasurer	
Dwight Sullivan	KT4DDS
treasurer@tamimaiarc.org	

2025 TARC Directors:

Brian Jacobson	W1JBD
Steve Phillips	NS4P
Nancy Heinrich	N4ZM
Jack Rosen	W1JJR
Roger McEntarfer	N9RM

CONTACT BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY EMAIL:
bod@tamiammiarc.org

Annual Club Dues are due on January 1st of each year and sre considered past due on March 1st of each year

Regular member: \$25.00/year Family membership: \$30.00/year
after 6/1 - \$12.00 or \$15.00 to year end.
After 10/31 you pay current and next years.
Non-voting student: \$5.00/year.

TARC Website: www.tamiamiarc.org

Contqct: webmaster@tamiamiarc.org

General Info Contact the club secretary: secretary@tamiamiarc.org

