



THE COMMUNICATOR



President's Message

Summer is waning, students are back in school, traffic problems are increasing, and, hopefully, hurricanes are not forming. And that means it is time to start up our club activities once more. I hope everyone had a great summer, got some rest, took vacation, and had some pleasurable diverting activities. We will start our board and club meetings in early September. I hope everyone in town will attend. We will present the 2027 club budget proposal for ratification at the October meeting when more members will be back in town.

The current 2027 plans for the club continue the same activities as we have been executing plus some new activities will be proposed. We have been approached to assist the Sarasota Military Academy in communicating with an astronaut on the ISS in the near future. I am confident that we can put a similar team together as before to accomplish that great program. The Pico balloon project will ramp up activity this fall and another launch is currently planned when

conditions appear providential. We also plan to assist Pine View School with their pico balloon launch sometime this Fall.

We had a great Field Day last June and it appears we out-performed previous years. We have also performed well in other events; and all of these I expect to continue in the next fiscal year. There has been a lot of interest in using Meshcore with many repeaters coming on line recently. This is an interesting technology currently used for texting. The cost to enjoy is really inexpensive. If you are interested to explore there are several club members willing to help you.

The club elections for the board of officers and directors is coming up in November. A slate of candidates has been created, but I urge all club members to consider being

(Continued on page 2)

KG4IYS



**We are on
Facebook**

Inside This issue

TARC Email Contact List	2
Nominations for Club Board	3
COMMITTEE REPORTS	4
It's Hurricane Season	5
Route 66 Annual Radio Event	5
A Look at QSO One.....	6

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Club Meeting Date**
Wed. September 9, 2026
TARC Pico Balloon Project
Jim N7JIM
- ♦ **Route 66 Ham Radio Event**
September 12-20, 2026
<https://wa6tst.club/route-66-on-the-air-2021/>
- ♦ **Annual Meeting 11/11/26**
Election of New Officers and Directors.
- ♦ **Holiday Party—RSVP**
Wed. Dec 2, 2026
https://tamiamiarc.org/store/?model_number=Res-1

Welcome New Members

08/25/26	Member	Dennis Atkinson	Extra	N4ETZ
07/01/26	First Year	Ming Y Lok	Technician	KR4NAH
06/28/26	Member	Jay Sanchez	General	W4MBM
06/06/26	Member	Phil Mc Corkle	General	KC7OJS
06/02/26	First Year	Jim 'IKE' Eisenhower	General	K7IKE

TARC Has Elmers

Who or what is an “Elmer”? In “ham speak” an Elmer is any experienced amateur radio operator who helps a new or less experienced ham learn about the hobby in general or about specific radio related topics.

To help new hams get any help they may need, TARC has created the generic email address:

“askelmer@tamiamiarc.org”. Currently, Steve NS4P receives these emails and either he can provide the help requested or he will find another club member who can.

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

Ham Club Online HELP

hcolhelp@tamiamiarc.org

Webmaster—report a problem

websupport@tamiamiarc.org

President's Message (Cont'd)

nominated for any of the positions. Everyone is welcome to take a role and enjoy the work of managing the club. It is not hard, you can learn about good club management, and it is a great way to contribute.

We will conclude the 2026 calendar year with the Holiday Party. Please

consider attending if possible. It is a pleasant event with members, spouses, and friends to enjoy good food and the holiday season.

73...de OM Chet KG4IYS



Christmas in July? Food for Thought.

TARC Holiday Party for 2026 will be held at the Hotel Venezia in Venice on December 2, 2026 from 6 PM to 9 PM.

Address is:

Hotel Venezia

425 Us Highway 41 Bypass N.

Venice Florida 34285

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS DATE!

The menu options and pricing for this year's party are:

- Prime Rib ... \$65
- Salmon ... \$53
- Chicken Marsala... \$52
- Vegan ... \$53

Please make your reservations and pay for them online at the club's website store **by November 23rd please:**

<https://tamiamiarc.org/wp-easycart-parent/store/>

Club Officer and Director Nominations are Now Open

For those with short memory spans, this is a reminder that we adopted bylaws revisions in January that change the club's Annual Meeting and election date to be at the November club meeting each year. Not in December any more. Newly elected directors and officers still take office on the first of the new year and serve for a one year term as before.

John KQ4ELH has once again volunteered to be the chairman of the Nominations Committee. He would certainly like to have some help in this regard so please contact him directly if you would like to serve on this committee.

All current officers and board members have been asked

to contact John directly to express their interest in staying on for another term in 2027 or if they plan not to have their names in nomination for another term. If any club member has interest in joining the board of directors or being an officer of the club, please contact John directly.

Form time to time, John will publish a list via our Groups.io (GiO) email service of the most current nominees for positions to be voted on by members at the November 11, 2026 club meeting. Please consider serving on the board or as an officer, and plan to attend the November club meeting to make your voice heard.

Committee Reports

Remote Station

Tom W8QJF

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

Several club members are regular users of the HF station and they give it great signal reports sent and received. If you are antenna or cost constrained from trying HF comms, this is for you!

Sunshine

Shaun KQ4YAX

Roger N9RM was injured at the beginning of July in a parking lot accident near his home in Indiana. We have sent a get well card to him and hope his seasonal return to Florida won't be delayed by the accident.

Past President, Paul KN4BAR is recovering from elective hip replacement surgery on 8/3/26. He expects to be up and walking at the 9/9/26 club membership meeting.

Florida State POTA Contest

Jim N7JIM

<https://fspota.org>

We closed our very successful 2026 event in April and have taken notes to improve the 2027 event. Thanks to everyone who helped in the event planning and operations. We will be meeting in November to kick off the 2027 event. If you are interested in being on the planning committee, contact N7JIM Jim at V8MGB@yahoo.com

Net Manager

Paul KN4BAR

Thanks to our regular 2 meter net controllers Tony W4RFV and Steve KN4NFX for keeping a great rotating schedule. I'm sure Frank W2XYZ and Steve NS4P would like to have an occasional guest net control to relieve them on the Tuesday DMR and Wednesday 10 meter nets.

We really could use another 2m net control station for the Thursday 7:30 pm net. If you are interested, please [contact me](#).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VE Testing

Steve NS4P

Last Test Date: 08/08/26

Number tested: 2

Passed: 2

New Members: 0

Next Test Date: 09/12/26

QCWA Liaison

AI KOAL

Chapter 53 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) will be changing the location of its monthly membership meetings starting in October. The former Denny's location in Sarasota has been demolished. Look to Groups.io for a message with the new meeting location, date and time details when they become available. 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. For more information on QCWA see the Chapter website – <https://qcwa53.org>

(no meetings Jun—Sep)

Repeater / Technical

Frank W2XYZ

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

No significant changes since last month. We are working on programming a new repeater controller that should improve EchoLink performance. We are considering next steps to resolve the feedback issue.

Digital Committee

The TARC Digital Committee is looking for enthusiastic members to help shape the future of our club's digital operations. Our mission is to explore and promote digital excellence through open-source technologies, ensuring our members stay on the leading edge of the hobby. We are currently seeking volunteers to assist with:

- Education & Mentorship: Helping fellow members get on the air with modes like FT8, JS8Call, and FreeDV.
- Technical Research: Testing open-source software and hardware configurations.
- Content Creation:Contributing to the "Digital Corner" in *The Communicator*.

Please reach out to the Digital Committee chair, Lou,KC4LR at our next meeting.

Membership

Roger N9RM

As of: 08/26/26

Total Membership: 171

147 Regular Members

1 Associate Member

6 First Year Members

17 Life Members

<https://www.hamclubonline.com/>

REVIEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP RECORD FOR ACCURACY. SEND CHANGES TO:
membership@tamiamiarc.org

Public Information Officer

Karl K4RLX



Pictures and videos of club activities and events are posted to Facebook, and notification of such pertinent posts will be sent out on Groups.io. To reach a wider audience I encourage you to "share" those posts that the community may be interested in on your own personal Facebook page.

<[Facebook Link](#)>

It's Hurricane Season—Are You Ready to Communicate?

For the past few years a small number of TARC members have taken to monitoring our 146.805 MHz repeater (PL 100Hz) during and following a major storm impact in our area. It has been a nice way to keep in touch and learn about local road conditions as well as to share experiences with the storm. If you have a 2m radio, consider hooking it up and giving it a test during one of the club's weekly 2m chat nets at 7:30 pm on Thursdays.

There is also an ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) group organized here in Sarasota County. If you are interested in a more active and formal role in emergency communications I suggest you take a look at what they need and have to offer: srqares.org.

Learning how to use Winlink with your HF or 2m/70cm radio equipment can make you a very popular person in your community if the Internet and phone service go down like they did in 2023 and 2024 following major hurricane hits in our area. This gives you the ability to send email messages world-wide via RF using the free Winlink software and the hundreds of free Gateway stations operated by hams around the country. Our SRQARES folks maintain several 2m and 70 cm such Gateways here in the county. Check out: winlink.org for more information.

73, de Paul KN4BAR

Route 66 Annual Ham Radio Event



2026 is the 100th anniversary of the Route 66 highway operating in the USA. This is an annual special event to celebrate the history of the Mother Road, sponsored by the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club in San Bernardino, CA.

There are expected to be 21 special event (1×1) stations taking part in

this year's event, from Santa Monica to the Chicago area. These are the two ends of Route 66, and there are clubs all along the route taking part.

This year the event is **from Saturday, September 12th** on the first weekend of September to **Sunday, September 20th** on the following weekend. That is two full weekends and the five weekdays in between, for a total of nine days of operating opportunity.

Contacts with western stations are always challenging. The event website has the old 2025 participating stations list and I hope it will be updated before the event begins:

<https://w6jbt.org/2013-route-66-on-the-air-participating-clubs/>

In my book this fun event ranks right up there with the 12 Days of Christmas, the 13 Colonies, and the two Field Day events each year.

73, de Paul KN4BAR

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.

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 your pictures, jokes, one-liners and short stories to

communicator@tamiamiarc.org

Can anyone say "SHACK OF THE MONTH"?

Bridging the Digital and RF Worlds: A Look at QSO One

For many of us in the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, exploring the intersection of traditional radio and modern internet linking has become a regular part of our operating habits. Whether our seasonal members are checking in from their northern summer homes

using DMR, or locals are spinning the dial on AllStarLink and EchoLink, digital voice networks play a massive role in keeping our community connected.

Historically, getting onto these multi-mode voice networks from outside the shack meant navigating a maze of hardware setups. Building a dedicated AllStarLink node, configuring Raspberry Pis, soldering custom radio interfaces, or troubleshooting Linux routing tables could turn a fun weekend project into an IT headache.

Enter QSO One, a modern, all-in-one application designed to streamline how operators connect to digital voice networks without the friction of dedicated physical hardware.

What is QSO One?

Built from the ground up for contemporary amateur radio operators, QSO One acts as a unified software client that brings together multiple major digital voice modes under a single, cohesive user interface. Instead of juggling fragmented applications, separate software windows, or specialized node hardware, operators can use a single program on their desktop or mobile device to access:

- AllStarLink (supporting both Node Mode and Web Transceiver Mode)
- EchoLink (with direct and proxy connection support)
- DMR (via BrandMeister and TGIF networks)
- YSF (Yaesu System Fusion / C4FM) (connecting directly to rooms and reflectors)
- M17 Digital Voice Reflectors



Skip the Expensive Hardware

One of the most powerful aspects of applications like QSO One is that you do not need to purchase expensive dedicated amateur radios (such as specialized C4FM/DMR handhelds) or set up

physical RF hotspots just to participate in these modes. DMR talk-groups and YSF rooms can be accessed entirely through software. Just the app installed on your PC, tablet, or smartphone paired with a good internet connection is all it takes to get on the air and converse globally.

Platform Availability & Official Website

QSO One is currently available for Windows (10/11) and Android (8.0+), with macOS, iOS, and Linux versions currently in development. Running the app on an Android device in background mode means your favorite nets and check-ins are accessible whether you are relaxing in the shack, traveling, or away from the rig.

Official Website: <https://qso1.net>

Installation, Setup, and Network ID Registration

While the app provides a sleek interface to streamline your operating, remember that linking into networks like DMR and YSF requires personal network credentials (IDs) assigned to your amateur radio callsign. Here is a quick guide to getting set up:

1. Download and Install: Visit the official website at qso1.net to grab the installer for Windows or the appropriate package for your Android device. Follow the standard on-screen setup prompts.
2. Register for DMR and YSF IDs.
3. DMR ID: To access DMR networks like BrandMeister or TGIF through the app you will need a unique digital ID assigned to your callsign. If you don't already have one, register for free at [RadioID.net](https://radioID.net) by sub-

(Continued on page 7)

A Look at QSO One (Cont'd)

Modern ham radio, all in one place

QSO One

Connect to AllStarLink, EchoLink, DMR, M17, and more coming soon.

Easy to use. Beautiful to look at. Robust. Intuitive. Built for modern ham radio.

Packed with features many other ham radio programs don't offer.

[Join the Beta Now](#) qso1.net

mitting a copy of your amateur radio license.

4. **YSF (Yaesu System Fusion):** While many rooms are openly accessible, setting up personal reflector dashboards or linked features may require registering your callsign profile on specific networks. If you are looking for more background information on how these various YSF reflector networks function or need tips on setting one up, this [website](#) offers a helpful explanation of the different systems.
5. **Configure Your Credentials:** Open QSO One, navigate to the settings or network configuration panel for your desired mode, and input your callsign along with your assigned DMR ID or network passwords.
6. **Test Your Audio:** Before jumping into active nets, use built-in features like a Parrot/Echo test reflector on your chosen network to verify your microphone levels, audio quality, and connection stability.

Why It Matters for TARC Members

As a club with a vibrant mix of full-time Florida residents and snowbird members who travel back and forth, bridging distances via digital modes is second nature to us. Tools like QSO One lower the technical barrier to entry, making it easier for newly licensed hams—or those less familiar with Linux configurations and hotspot hardware—to participate in nets, chat with local friends, and

explore the wider world of VoIP amateur radio.

You don't need to be a system administrator or drop hundreds of dollars on specialized gear to get on the air. You just need an internet connection and a desire to converse.

If you've been looking for a streamlined way to monitor your favorite reflectors, check into nets while away from the radio, or simplify your digital toolkit, QSO One is well worth a look.

Have you experimented with QSO One or other digital voice linking tools? Drop a note to the co-editors at communicator@tamiamiarc.org and share your shack setup in an upcoming issue of The Communicator!

73, de the TARC Digital Committee

Editor's Note:

You will need to register or establish accounts at EchoLink and Brandmeister (for DMR). Follow these links if needed:

- <https://www.echolink.org/>
- Get your DMR ID# at <https://www.radioid.net>
- <https://brandmeister.network/#/>

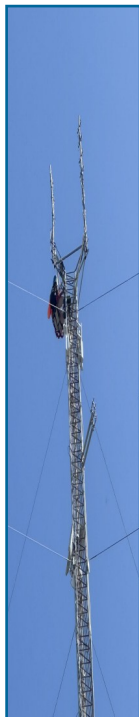
Use EchoLink to check into the TARC 2m chat net on the W4AC-R repeater every Thursday evening at 7:30 pm. Use Brandmeister and your DMR ID number to check into the TARC DMR net every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm on Talk Group # 310442

Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

The Tamiami Amateur Radio club was organized in 1960 to serve Venice and the 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 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 Sunshine 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 — EchoLink W4AC-R (Node # 513309)

ALL TARC Repeaters bear the FCC Callsign of W4AC. Repeater trustee is Lou KC4LR. Location: 565 Paul Morris Dr., Englewood, FL

<[FULL REPEATER INFORMATION HERE](#)>

WEEKLY RADIO NET SCHEDULE

MONDAYS, 1:30 pm (HF net)

7251 KHz LSB

TUESDAYS, 7:30 pm (DMR net)

444.100 MHz, color code 1,
TS 1, Talk Group 310442

WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 pm (HF net)

28.460 MHz USB

THURSDAYS, 7:30 pm (FM net)

146.805 MHz PL 100 Hz (-)
ECHO LINK: 513309 (W4AC-R)

Net Manager, Paul KN4BAR

<[FULL NET SCHEDULE](#)>

THE COMMUNICATOR is a publication of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club (TARC). It is published monthly; except during the summer months when the July and August issues are 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 Nancy N4ZM who acknowledge and thank contributing writers and photographers.

2026 TARC Officers:**President**

Chester 'Chet' Fennell KG4IYS

Vice President

Frank Wroblewski W2XYZ

Secretary

Lou Ronnaou KC4LR

secretary@tamiamiarc.org

Treasure

Dwight Sullivan KT4DS

treasurer@tamiamiarc.org

2026 TARC Directors:

Steve Phillips NS4P

Roger McEntarfer N9RM

Allan 'Al' Culbert K0AL

James 'Jim' Miller N7JIM

Paul Nienaber KN4BAR

CONTACT BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY EMAIL:

bod@tamiamiarc.org

Annual Club Dues are due each year on the anniversary date of your last dues payment. The club's membership system sends automatic renewal notices by email 30 days in advance of a due date.

Regular member: \$25.00/year Family membership: \$30.00/year

Non-voting student: \$5.00/year.

New licensee: Tested by TARC VE— gets a free first year of club membership.

[Join the Club](#)

TARC Website: www.tamiamiarc.org

Contact: webmaster@tamiamiarc.org

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

