



THE COMMUNICATOR



President's Message

The September club meeting was well attended considering this was the first meeting following the summer break. Some new programs were presented by Dan O'Donovan, W4DOD, that the board had previously reviewed and believed should be shown to the membership for agreement and approval. Happily, this has occurred, and of the two programs recommended, the TARC Ambassador Committee has formed and is actively seeking participants. Soon the Makers Committee will be formed as we progress. I sincerely support both of these programs, and I believe this will help to grow the club successfully and create more active participation in the various club activities.

The Sarasota Military Academy (SMA) has received a date from NASA in October for executing an ARISS contact with the ISS. A team has been quickly formed to prepare for this contact as this was short notice. This ARISS contact will follow the same process that was used with Pine View School.

This will be another great experience for our club.

Pico balloon launches are being planned again for both ourselves and Pine View

School. Hopefully, as the weather patterns improve, we will undertake the launches by late October to sometime in November. More will be announced at the October club meeting.

I would like to remind everyone that the Christmas party is coming up on December 2, from 6 pm to 9 pm. You can signup for meals on the club web page or sign up with one of the club officers. The earlier you sign up, the better we can determine our cost profile. I hope to see many of you plus spouses and/or friends at the event.

The November elections of officers and directors is rapidly approach-

(Continued on page 2)

KG4IYS



We are on
Facebook

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Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Club Meeting Date**
Wed. October 14, 2026
Program: DMR Basics,
Chuck K1CHC
- ♦ **Annual Meeting 11/11/26**
Election of New Officers and Directors. **Program:** WSPR
ins and outs, Tom K7ONE
- ♦ **Holiday Party—R.S.V.P.**
Wed. Dec 2, 2026
https://tamiamiarc.org/store/?model_number=Res-1

Welcome New Members

09/20/26	First Year	Cef Cruz	Technician	KR4OYH
09/12/26	Member	Julian Phillips	Technician	KR4OYF
09/12/26	Member	Summer Jenkins	Technician	KR4OYG
08/25/26	Member	Dennis Atkinson	Extra	N4ETZ
07/01/26	First Year	Ming Y Lok	Technician	KR4NAH

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)

ing. There is currently one candidate for each running position. But that does not mean the nominations are closed. Anyone may apply for any position on the board and the election will determine who is on the board for next year. I do want to note that the bylaws do not restrict the number of directors. Prior Presidents have determined the number they wish to have. The only bylaw requirement is that all officer positions must be filled and a minimum

of three directors must be filled. I am not limiting the number of directors this year. This is a good position to try out to learn how the club operates and to take on leadership roles in the club. All nominations will be fairly allowed. If you wish to work as a director for 2027, please apply to John KQ4ELH our nominating committee chairman.

73,

Chet Fennell de OM 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 Election in November

As of the publication date, the following candidate list will be voted on at the November 11th Annual Meeting:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>Candidate and Call Sign</u>
The "Executive"	
President	Dan O'Donovan W4DOD
Vice President	Frank Wroblewski W2XYZ
Secretary	Lou Ronnau KC4LR
Treasurer	Dwight Sullivan KT4DS
General Board of Director Positions	
Director	Steve Phillips NS4P
Director	Roger McEntarfer N9RM

Director	Allan 'Al' Culbert KOAL
Director	James 'Jim' Miller N7JIM
Director	Chet Fennell KG4IYS
Director*	Randy Aiken KO4IYS
Director*	Karl Downing K4RLX
Director*	Tom Ziroli N2UD

* 3 new Director positions have been added to the board of directors for 2027

Nominating Committee Chairman
John KQ4ELH

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

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 Jim N7JIM 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: 09/12/26
 Number tested: 4
 Passed: 4
 New Members: 3
 Next Test Date: 10/10/26

QCWA Liaison

AI KOAL

Chapter 53 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) meets on the first Monday of the month at 11 am at the Perkins Restaurant & Bakery, 1331 US41 Bypass in Venice. **[new location beginning October 2026]** 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: 09/21/26

Total Membership: 175

148 Regular Members
 1 Associate Member
 9 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](#)>

Become a TARC AMBASSADOR

The Tamiami Amateur Radio Club is officially launching our new **Club Ambassador Program**, and we need your passion, experience, and friendly face to help it succeed! Our community thrives when we connect, and as a TARC Ambassador, you will play a vital role in welcoming new members, guiding folks at club events, and helping newcomers navigate the inner workings and hidden mechanisms of TARC. Whether you are a seasoned "Elmer" or simply love chatting with fellow radio enthusiasts, there is a place for you in this program.

What Does a TARC Ambassador Do?

- **Reach out** to new members, both newly licensed and seasoned hams, to answer basic questions about the Club and to help them feel at home.
- **Event Support:** Act as a friendly point of contact at club meetings, special event stations, and field days.
- **Mentorship Connect:** Help connect newer hams with the right technical resources ("Elmers") within the club.
- **Give back** to the radio community and help keep TARC vibrant.

- **Meet** new friends and connect more deeply with current members.
- **Share** your unique knowledge and passion for amateur radio.

We are looking for members who are welcoming, dependable, and enthusiastic about TARC. If you are interested in volunteering or want to learn more about what is involved, please reply directly to this post or reach out to the committee members listed below.

Thank you for helping us keep TARC the friendliest club on the air!

73's,

Karl Downing, K4RLX (941-999-7407)

Roger Mc Entarfer, N9RM (260-503-9008)

Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR (941-468-3843)

Dan O'Donovan, W4DOD (865-437-9955)

Come See a POTA Station Setup on Oct 14th

We have many new hams and club members on the club's roster and there is much interest in Parks on the Air (POTA) operating. I will be setting up a working POTA HF radio station in the church parking lot at the October

14th monthly club meeting, starting at 5:30 pm. Come to look, listen, ask questions, or to learn how to operate on HF.

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"?

Ask Elmer for New and Old Hams



Whether you are a brand new ham and club member or an old time seasoned ham, everyone needs some help at times. New hams need to learn about EVERYTHING while older hams may need to learn more about new technologies and modes of operation. TARC has an active program to help everyone!

So How Can I Get Some Help From the Club?

EMAIL: TARC-VeniceFL@groups.io. If you are a subscriber to the club's Groups.io message service you can post your question here by simply sending an email to this address. Everyone in the club will get to read the question and one or more club members will usually respond to help you out.

EMAIL: askelmer@tamiamiarc.org. If you would like to remain anonymous with your question then you can send an email to this address. Only one or two of the club's true Elmer members will see your question. If they can't answer it, we have a long list of club members with expertise in many different areas of amateur radio operations who can. Your question will be referred to one of them for a prompt answer.

VISIT the club's website. **ATTEND** a club meeting, event, or breakfast get-together. **CHECKOUT** the club's [New Member Resource](#) page on the website.

ATTEND one of the new (**just starting in October!**) Google Meet Elmer Help online video sessions. Each meeting is one hour long and an experienced club member will host the sessions to help new club members learn more about the club and its many resources and activities. For the newly licensed amateur radio operator, this is the place to go with all those questions you have about radios, antennas, bands, repeaters, and just plain old "how to be a ham and what should I do now" type of questions. Starting the week of October 5th and every week thereafter use any web browser of your choice and visit this URL: <https://meet.google.com/yeb-xrtm-dqb>

MONDAYS, 7 to 8 pm and WEDNESDAYS, 10 to 11 am

The Future of Ham Radio is ?

The future of amateur radio in the United States is at an exciting crossroads, driven by a rapid evolution in technology, shifting demographics, and a renewed emphasis on community resilience. While traditional person-to-person analog chat faces competition from modern internet communication, the hobby is experiencing a strong structural transformation.

Several key trends and developments are shaping the future of amateur radio:

1. The Dominance of Digital Modes and Software-Defined Radio (SDR)

- **Digital Integration:** Modes like FT8, JS8Call, and VarAC continue to dominate HF bands, making weak-signal DXing accessible even for operators with restricted suburban space or modest wire antennas.
- **SDR-First Stations:** Traditional heavy analog dials and physical filter banks are increasingly taking a backseat to software-defined radios and direct-sampling architectures. Operators routinely leverage computer-assisted signal processing, AI-driven noise reduction, and remote operation platforms.
- **Open-Source Digital Voice:** Protocols like M17 and decentralized networking (such as HamWAN and digital voice modes like DMR and C4FM) are attracting tech enthusiasts interested in the intersection of radio frequency and modern networking.

2. Convergence with the "Maker" Movement and IoT

- Younger generations and tech-savvy newcomers are bridging amateur radio with the broader maker and Internet of Things (IoT) ecosystems.
- Projects involving microcontrollers (like Arduino and Raspberry Pi), lightweight high-altitude pico/space balloons, portable Parks on the Air (POTA) kits, and mesh networking (such as MESHCORE) are redefining what it means to "tinker" in the shack. The focus has expanded from simply talking over a mic to experimenting with how machines, sensors, and radios interact.

3. Vital Role in Emergency Communication (EmComm)

- With extreme weather events and grid vulnerabilities increasing across the country, independent, infrastructure-agnostic communication has never been more critical.
- Local emergency management agencies, hospitals, and municipal governments continue to institutionalize partnerships with amateur radio groups (such as ARES). Off-grid readiness—fueled by lightweight LiFePO4 batteries, portable solar setups, and robust local emergency nets—remain a massive cornerstone driving institutional and community interest.

4. Rebuilding On-Ramps and Modernizing Club Culture

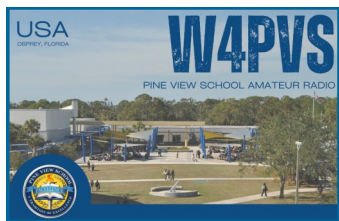
- To combat an aging demographic base, local clubs and national organizations like the ARRL are heavily prioritizing structured onboarding, mentorship, and "Elmering."
- Successful clubs are moving away from passive gatekeeping and focusing on digital-first resource sharing, modern web-based member portals, and active welcome programs that guide newly licensed operators through their critical first 90 days on the air.

Ultimately, amateur radio is shedding its image as an exclusive legacy hobby and evolving into a dynamic technical playground where electronic experimentation, digital innovation, and community public service intersect.

73, Dan W4DOD



Pine View School Update



a couple of new members we're having fun and learning more!

At our first meeting, we gained 4 new members, a few with an existing license, and a few studying for their technician license. Covering the basics, we introduced resources, plans for the future (like weather balloons!), and fun ideas.

After doing a friendly morse code competition, covering some etiquette basics, and more fun activities, the club is

With the start of a new school year, Pine View HAM Radio club is back in business! Paul and Steve have attended our meetings to help us get our antenna back up, and with

preparing for our first event: Club Fair! Making posters and discussing fun ways to bring in members, we can't wait to grow our club and meet more people!



radio and make calls so we can secure a higher spot on the leaderboard this year. We can't wait to do big things, and we really appreciate TARC's support for making everything happen.

73, de Diya KZ4ZT, Vice President

We've been looking forward to big things too: preparing for the School Club Roundup competition in late October! We're getting members prepared and ready to hop on the

TARC Club Logo Apparel

At the beginning of 2025, the club membership voted to change our club LOGO'd apparel vendor. The previous vendor preferred to receive orders in bulk and the club was responsible for promoting sales, taking orders and collecting payment for those orders. We typically had two ordering periods per year; spring and fall.



The new vendor offers the same club shirt styles and colors as before and they have provided a website where club members can place individual orders at any time for a club LOGO'd shirt.

Ordering website:

<https://www.companycasuals.com/TARC>

Please note that for your very first order of any LOGO'd apparel item, there will be a \$15 embroidery set-up fee charged to your purchase. Thereafter, any future orders with the same name and call sign will NOT have this fee



charged to your orders.

After you have completed and submitted your online order, a company representative will call you to review the order and to provide payment instructions. The preferred method of payment is by Zelle money transfer. Any questions concerning the ordering process or your order should be addressed directly to the vendor's representative.

The vendor will also take direct, phone or email orders from club members for **any other club LOGO'd apparel** items in their company's catalog. Please note that items such as mugs, bags, etc. must be ordered in bulk quantities to have the club logo applied to them.

Only apparel items can be ordered one at a time. You must provide the product number and item name when placing a direct order; e.g.: **TTCM4414 tentree® Space Dye Fleece Full-Zip Hoodie**

Online Catalog:

<https://redhottpress.com/>

Vendor Contact:

Barbara Harrison
Red Hott Press Inc.
941-526-3964

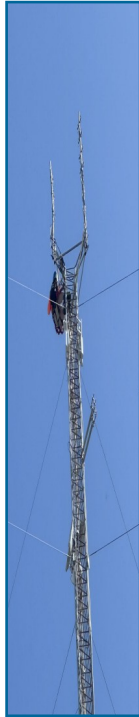
Barbara@RedHottPress.com

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)

7255 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 Ronnau 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

