



THE COMMUNICATOR



Mailing Address: P. O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274

W4AC Repeaters: 444.100 MHz (DMR) & 146.805 MHz (-) (PL100Analog)

Incorporated 1984

<http://www.tamiamiarc.org>

June, 2022

In this issue:	
President's Message	1
Meeting Notice	1
Meeting Minutes	2-3
Prog. Sched. Ask Elmer	3
DX Jack's Page	4
Florida QSO Party	5-6
Dayton Hamfest	7-8
New PIO SLOT Ant.	9
AZ Smile ? Spam ?	10
Club Calendar	11
Membership Application	12

President's message.....NS4P

I frequently get a question from new hams that goes something like "How do I learn to use my radio?" In a related issue, I sometimes hear hams that have been licensed for years make a comment along the lines of "I haven't used my <insert radio here> in a long time – I've almost forgotten how to use it!" Well, it turns out that the answer to both problems is like the joke about how to get to Carnegie Hall – "Practice man, Practice". And in ham radio one of the best ways to practice is to participate in a "net".



A net (short for Network) is a scheduled on-air meeting of amateur radio operators that share a common interest. Nets have probably been around for as long as there was more than one amateur radio operator; and are an easy and effective way to practice using any frequency or mode that you can think of (ok, maybe not FT8). I sense that some operators are a bit reluctant to participate in a net, which is totally understandable. Hopefully, I can provide some encouragement.

For those that are new, and as a refresher to others, here's the basics of how a net operates:

The first thing to figure out is when and where the net meets. There are nets operating somewhere in the world essentially 24 hours a day, every day. These days, the magic of internet search engines makes it easy to find a net that meets your needs. For example, TARC keeps a list of local VHF/UHF nets on our web site - Club Nets – TamiAmi Amateur Radio Club (tamiamiarc.org) – you can also search for nets registered with the ARRL on their web site - ARRL Net Directory Search. So, the first lesson is to learn how to set your radio to the mode and frequency of the net you want to join.

The next bit involves some listening – almost every net starts with a specific station - the "Net Control" starting the net by reading a "preamble". The preamble will describe the purpose of the net and the ground rules for joining, or "checking in" to the net. Listening to the preamble is vital, as each net has its own method of operation. Some nets do a roll call, where the net control works from a list and calls each station in turn. Other nets simply ask for stations to check in, usually with callsign, name and location and state if you have any "traffic" (either formal Radiograms or an announcement or informal message). Many nets take check-ins from mobile or short-time stations (not going to stick around for the entire net) first as they might be out of range quickly.

After everyone checks in, then the Net Control generally goes down the list of check-ins and gives everyone a chance to talk – depend-

Continued on page 3 >>>

Next Issue
Field Day Report
July/August
Published 7/15

Next meeting 7:00 PM, Wednesday, June 08, 2022 at Venice Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 825 The Rialto, Venice, 34285

TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB *Minutes of the 5/11/22 Meeting*

Note: Elmer assistance meeting has been planned to occur at 6 pm for information and mentoring of interested ham radio operators.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by VP Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR, followed by flag salute.

Introductions:

Visitors - none

New members— Anthony Mitkowski, KO4ZMN, Venice

Remaining Introductions - Introductions from all those remaining including Joseph Shortill, W1XXV, from ME.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Gary Youngberg, W8SKI - A motion was made by Steve Frogatt, KN4NFX, to accept the minutes of membership meeting of April 14, 2022 as published in The Communicator. The motion was seconded by Art Wester, K4NUM, and was passed by unanimous voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE: Gary Youngberg, W8SKI-- No communications

TREASURER'S REPORT: Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ --Reported for the period from 3/31/2022 thru 4/30/2022. Beginning balance of \$15,754.25. Receipts were \$314.24. Expenses were \$923.88. Ending balance for the period was \$15,651.61

A motion was made by Steve Frogatt, KN4NFX, to accept the Treasurer's report for the above period. The motion was seconded by Nancy Heinrich, N4ZM and was passed by unanimous voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SUNSHINE: Jim Shortill, KJ4NDO—No illnesses reported.

VE TESTING: Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR—Next testing session is Saturday, May 14. Five candidates are enrolled for testing at the Jervey Library branch. Also explained that the FCC is processing fees for license transactions with better time turnaround.

LIAISON TO QCWA: Nancy Heinrich, N4ZM, reported that 18 members attended last chapter's meeting on Monday May 2. SRQ QCWA will not meet until October 3, as will be on summer break.

REPEATER / TECHNICAL: Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ—Gave information that all repeaters were working fine except for outage when tower climbers were performing antenna relocation and service. Upcoming nets, DMR digital repeater on 440.100 with

Talk Group 310442 opens Tuesdays @ 7:30pm. Analog FM 2M 146.805- 100PL, on Thursdays @ 7:30pm; HF 10M net on 28.460 USB begins when the 2M Net concludes.

MEMBERSHIP: Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR. Current number of members of TARC is 130 including 108 regular, 3 associate, 7 first year, and 11 life members.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Repeater Maintenance Committee:** Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR-- Mentioned AREDN performing well; have an inquiry from Rotonda West regarding a field test.
- Remote Station Update:** Tom Shrilla, W8QJF— Informed that vertical HF antenna installation will be soon.
- Jerry Spears Memorial Update:** Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ-- Decided on auto antenna tuner and will purchase at the Xenia Hamvention.
- FL QSO Party Event:** Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ-- Gave explanation of activities and contacts, will receive summary in future. 15M and 20M, phone and CW modes. Noted numerous QSO's in Florida.
- Field Day, June 24 – 26:** Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ— Will be setting up at Venice USCG, using phone and CW modes. New ARRL rule is max power is now 100W, no amplifiers permitted. Event is from 2 pm Saturday thru 2 pm Sunday
- Possible TARC Special Occasions:** Dwight Sullivan, KT4DDS— Informed the club that he has accepted the role as Public Information Officer (PIO). Gave information about upcoming events namely Venice Hurricane Festival, 2023, the Sun Fiesta, put on by the Women's Sertoma Club, takes place in October this year, ChalkFest in March 2023 and Venice Beach Fest in May 2023.
- ARRL Foundation Grant:** Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR— Mentioned \$500K grant money set aside for promoting ham radio to the public. Second grant cycle taking place in October 2022

NEW BUSINESS:

- Public rental storage space:** Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ-- Explained that club owned equipment is stored in three private garages and the club consider obtaining rental space which is more expensive than the current budget could support. Discussion **Continued >>>>**

TARC Minutes, continued

took place on possibility of a 10 X 10 shed at the repeater site. The club hopes to find free storage space locally.

The meeting was adjourned by Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR.

ADJOURNMENT: Time of motion 7:45 pm

50-50 DRAWING: Winner Jim Shortill KJ4NDO
Amount \$31.00

Attendance: Number of members 33, Number of guests 0

Featured Program: Frank Wroblewski, W1XYZ, using N3FJP & N1MM logging software

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 8, at VPC Fellowship Hall @ 7 pm

(Elmer Mentoring taking place at 6 pm, prior to meeting.)

*Respectfully submitted, Gary Youngberg, W8SKI
Recording Secretary*

President's message, continued

ing on the specific interest of the net, it can be general talk about your day or maybe it's a technical net where a specific topic is addressed by everyone. After everyone talks, then Net Control asks for late check-ins, final comments, and the net wraps up.

It's really just a matter of listening to what is going on and talking when it is your turn. Not complicated, but the "Basic Net Protocol" is the basis of all public service and emergency communications done via ama-

teur radio. Regular participation in nets builds up the skill of working in a structured communications environment and helps you remember what all those knobs and buttons do. For even more fun – you can take a turn at being Net Control – it's actually a lot of fun.

That's all for this month – I hope to hear some more of you on our weekly nets.

73, Steve, NS4P



'Ask Elmer' gains popularity

Ask Elmer is alive and thriving the hour before TARC club meetings. The most recent meetings have seen quite a bit of interest in glomming information from fellow hams (Elmers) prior to the business part of the meetings. DMR code plugs are a hot ticket item, but all sorts of knowledge is being shared by experienced Elmers with those in need of a bit of assistance.

Now, in case you think "glomming" isn't a word – here's the definition:

transitive verb. 1 : take, steal. 2 : seize, catch. glom on to. : to grab hold of : appropriate to oneself, glommed on to her ideas.



Shots from May's Ask Elmer session



Meeting program schedule

June 08 - Sarasota ARES, Gary, WB9AYD

September 14 - Open

October 12 - Open

November 09 - Open

December 14 - No program

January 11, 2023 - Open



DX Jack's page



By Jack Sproat, W4JS



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
Jan Mayen – JX/LB4MI, QRS CW & SSB	Now to October	21	NO	01-06	23-05	01-03	NO	NO	NO	NO
Rotuma – 3D2RRR by 3-op team, FT/CW/SB	Now to ???	263	NIL	06-11	05-12	03-14	02-11	23-06	19-24	NIL
Namibia – V5/ZS2PS	Now to 15 June	107	NIL	23-06	22-03	20-23	--	--	--	NIL
Ogasawara – JD1BOW by JA0JHQ, CW/SB	Now to 19 Jun	317	NO	NIL	08-12	12-14	20-23	NIL	NO	NO
Rwanda – 9X2AW by DF2WO, CW/SB/Dig	01 to 22 June	81	NO	00-04	23-05	20-06	18-02	15-01	NIL	NO
Gabon – TR8CR by F8EN, CW	01 Jun to 31 Jul	88	--	00-05	23-03	20-03	--	--	--	--
Sao Tome – S9EFW by K9EFW, SSB	14 to 19 June	90	--	23-07	--	19-04	--	12-22	--	--
Ogasawara – JD1BMH by JG7PSJ, CW/SB/R	18 to 26 June	317	--	NIL	08-12	12-14	20-23	NIL	NO	NO
Jan Mayen – JX/LB5SH, SSB/FT8	22 to 27 June	21	NO	01-06	23-05	01-03	NO	NO	NO	NO
Ogasawara – JD1AJD by JA1ADT, CW/FT	24 Jun to 02 Jul	317	--	--	--	12-14	20-23	NIL	NO	NO
Market Reef – OJ0JR & OJ0MR (focus 6m)	26 Jun to 06 Jul	31	--	00-05	23-06	11-01	NO	NO	NO	NO
Liechtenstein – HB0/OZ0J, SB/CW/Digital	28 Jun to 05 Jul	46	01-04	23-06	22-07	10-02	18-23	NO	NO	NO
St Pierre & Miquelon – FP/KV1J	28 Jun to 12 Jul	39	00-10	21-12	19-15	21-12	11-04	12-02	NO	NO
Ogasawara – JD1/JR3DVL by 2 ops	30 Jun to 08 Jul	317	Look	ing	for	6m	50323	FT8		
Namibia – V5/HB9BFM	01 to 12 July	107	NIL	23-06	22-03	20-23	17-19	12-18	--	--

Prepared 30 May 2022 based on <https://www.ng3k.com/>, *The Weekly DX* 22-21, info@dxnews.com, and *Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin* No. 1565.

Notes: Times shown are for S-5 or better signals and 50% opening probability. ??? = Call Sign or Date not yet known; ++ = Mostly SSB; ** = Mostly CW; NO = No Opening forecast, NIL = band is open but signals below S-5 threshold. Long Path bearings and opening times are underlined. All forecast opening times are calculated using VOACAP <http://www.voacap.com/hf/>.

-- MAY SOLAR ACTIVITY --

From 01 through 30 May, the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 98 to 180, with a mean value of 135.3. The A_p index was ≥ 7 on 18 days during that period. Sunspot regions were visible on every day, varying from two to eight groups. There were from 2-26 C-class flares every day but one, 21 M-class flares and one X-class flare thru 29 May.

-- JUNE FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at mostly low levels throughout the month. M-class flare activity is possible on 07-22 Jun.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to reach minor storm levels on 24 Jun, active levels on 12-13, 16-17 and 23 Jun, and quiet to active levels 11, 15, 18, and 26-27 Jun due to recurrent CH HSS influences. Quiet and quiet to unsettled conditions are expected to prevail throughout the remainder of the month.

The solar flux should range from 125 to 160, and average 137.5 for the month of June.

From *NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 30 May 2022, *NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 30 May 2022, and *45 Day AP/10.7cm Flux Forecast, USAF*, 30 May 2022.

-- GIVE SIX METERS DX A TRY --

We are now in the prime time of the year for 6-meter DXing via the sporadic E layer. The E-layer is only about 60 miles above Earth, so you do need a very low angle of radiation and hope there will be multiple reflections to snag the DX. Also as these openings can occur without any forecast and can fade away without warning, they are called sporadic.

In addition, with the increasing ionization of the F-layer, there is potential for long haul 6m DX. After getting relicensed back in 2005, Dan-K3ZXL down Punta Gorda way has confirmed over 100 for 6m DXCC—in spite of the 6m skip often flying right over top of us. The best DX your writer has achieved on 6m is Japan to the NW and Israel to the NE—both on CW in the pre-FT8 “era”. It was a kind gesture by the JA op to record our signal exchange and send it to me via e-mail such that I could hear my signal.

The 6m band plan is rather simple: 50.000 to 50.100 is reserved for beacon stations and CW only. 50.100 to 54.000 is open for CW, SSB, image, RTTY and data. The national calling frequency is 50.125 and, if you get a response, you are expected to move off that freq to another of your choice.

Those who use FT8 will feel right at home on 6m, as that mode is now dominant on the band. 50.313 is the standard freq, with 50.325 also coming into play when the activity becomes more intense.

The usual spotting networks such as DX Summit and DXwatch.com provide 6m spots, however <https://www.dxmaps.com/> is really dedicated to the VHF bands. Both a map showing what's being worked around the world, and a detailed table showing call signs, spotting times, modes, frequencies, etc. can be displayed.

CQ has the monthly “VHF PLUS” column and QST offers “The World Above 50 MHz” every month. The latter offers the latest data on stations being worked and propagation as of the date of publication.

A 6m vertical is certainly unobtrusive, and it could offer new opportunities for you.



by Frank, W2XYZ

doesn't have that problem. The Florida QSO party is one of the best attended, if not the very best, and everyone in the other states know it. A Florida station calling CQ is almost akin to being a rare DX station.

COVID hampered our club's participation the last couple of years in the Florida QSO party, but not so this year. Once again, Al, K0AL, graciously allowed the club to operate from his cottage. On Friday, April 28, several club members met at Al's cottage after breakfast at Perkins. We used Jim's, KJ4NDO, tripod to put Andy's, KB1HIP, two element yagi up about 25 feet, and assembled Steve's, NS4P, TW antenna.

It's spring and a man's fancy turns to...parties. Free beer and dancing girls are fun, but even better are the state QSO parties. Around this time of the year, states take turns holding QSO parties.

Newer hams may not be familiar with what a QSO party is, so let me explain. A QSO party is hosted by a designated state (or Canadian province) and the other 49 states (and provinces) try to make radio contact with all, or as many as possible, counties in the party state. The state hosting the party is more like a guest of honor than a host. The general idea is you call CQ and everyone else tries to make contact with you. It makes you feel like a rare DX station with everyone clamoring for the chance to have a brief conversation with you.

Some lesser populated states, like some of the western states, hold QSO parties on the same weekend as other lesser populated states. Doing so creates more activity on the bands and encourages hams from the other states to participate. If there were only a handful of hams calling CQ, no one would want to waste a weekend to work just a few stations. Florida



Nancy, N4ZM runs 'em on 20 meter side-band while Dennis, W9CIB logs.



Frank, W2XYZ, points out antenna placement to Tom, KN4ONE

The 'festivities' started on Saturday, April 29 at noon. It ran until 10 PM and then started up again Sunday morning at 8 AM and concluded at 6 PM.

The club operated a CW station at 200 watts to Al's

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FLORIDA QSO PARTY, continued

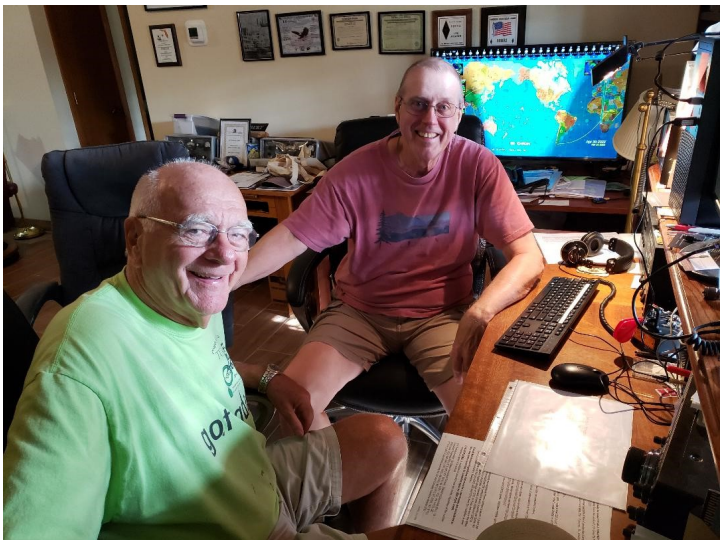
yagis, and operated a 500 watt phone station with Andy's beam and Steve's TW. Only two bands were really useful that weekend during the hours of daylight, 20m and 15m. 40M was used the last two hours on Saturday night, when the sun set, but the rest of the time we were on 20M and 15M, although other bands were tried. Since both stations cannot operate on the same band at the same time, the phone station used 20M on Saturday and CW on 15M. On Sunday we reversed with the phone station on 15M and CW on 20M.

are checked for accuracy and completeness.



Tom, W4IEE, and Frank, W2XYZ, running 15 meter CW

Band conditions were not very good that weekend, particularly on Saturday. Nonetheless, we did terrific. Combining the contacts made by our two operating stations more than qualified us for "Worked All States" award. The crew operating the phone station was able to make 332 contacts and the CW station made 874 contacts for a total of 148,128 points. How we did compared to the rest of the Florida stations won't be known for certain for several months, as all logs



Host Al, K0AL, and Tom, W4IEE take a much needed break from the 20 meter CW pileup.

Just an observation from me is - I see we made more points this year than we did four years ago when our club won a plaque for high score in our category. Winning is nice, but really not nearly as important as the fun we had working pile-ups, and the experience gained by many with operating in a contest environment. Most importantly is the joy the 19 operators, loggers, 2nd Ops, and providers had working together as a team for the common effort of bringing W4AC, Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, to the rest of the country.

The club thanks, **K0AL, K3SY, K4NUM, KB1HIP, KN4NBU, KO4GKT, KQ4APW, KO4YAX, KO4ZMT, KX1N, KY4RS, N2UD, N4ZM, W1JBD, W4IEE, W9CIB, KJ4NDO, NS4P, W2XYZ.**

73, de Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ

Seen at Dayton Hamvention



Dayton Xenia Hamvention report

by Frank, W2XYZ



Hamvention has been a hallmark of amateur radio for decades. From a feeble start at the Dayton Biltmore Hotel in 1952, it has drawn thousands of hams to its marketplace. Over the years, it grew from a regional hamfest to a national phenomenon. The hotel convention hall eventually was not large enough to contain the vendors, buyers and traders and a larger venue was needed.

In 1964 the Dayton Hamvention began being held at a local sports complex, Hara's Arena. As years passed, financial problems plagued the arena which led to neglect of maintenance. The arena saw its last Hamvention in 2016. Beginning in 2017, Hamvention moved to the Greene County Fairgrounds in nearby Xenia. That first year was something of a disaster due to weather, parking, traffic, vendor space, etc. The entire flea market area was a sea of mud and the grass-covered parking lot wasn't much better. Farm tractors were employed to pull many of the mud-stranded cars to higher ground. 2018 showed much improvement in all areas and Hamvention was a success.

The word got out that Hamvention is back, so the 2019 Hamvention saw an all-time record for attendance. Over 32,000 paying patrons came that year. Then COVID happened and changed everything. There was no Hamvention in 2020 as the nation was in the grips of the COVID pandemic. Hopes were high that it would soon go away, but it didn't. Most people felt by 2021 the event should be back on track, but another wave of COVID sent many to the hospital and claimed thousands of lives again. Hamvention for 2021 was canceled as an act of precaution.

By 2022 most hams had the good sense to get immunized or had developed antibodies from a previous encounter with COVID. With fingers crossed, management decided to hold a Hamvention in Xenia for

May 19-21, 2022. They weren't sure if another outbreak might occur and scuttle the plans, or whether the public would fail to attend out of a sense of caution. None of that happened and things went smoothly. The theme of this year's Hamvention was appropriately named "REUNION." After waiting three years for this to happen, I thought they should have named it "FINALLY." To no one's surprise, they didn't go with my suggestion.

The Olympics begin with the lighting of an ornamental basin of oil. The oil is ignited from a flaming torch carried thousands of miles by runners. The Kentucky Derby has much pomp and circumstance with using a bugle to call the horses and riders to begin the race. NASCAR uses a gun and a flag. None of that stuff for the start of Hamvention. Hamvention is different. Hamvention is special. Management, or maybe someone else arranged this year's Hamvention to begin with the clap of thunder. That was really impressive except it was followed immediately with a heavy downpour of rain, and for a considerable amount of time. It looked like 2022 was going to be a washout like 2017. Whoever was responsible for the thunder apparently controlled the rain too. All the rain stopped minutes before the gates opened. Even the flea market area was reasonable dry before noon.



On Friday, at 9 AM the gates opened. A horde of hams gushed through the gate. It looked like the storming of the Bastille (some older club members might remember that one). Once inside, it was like toyland. There are three very large buildings and two smaller buildings full of vendors displaying goodies not seen in the flesh (so to speak) for a very long time. Within minutes it seemed like every sales rep was engaged in conversation with an eager ham.

All major radio manufacturers were represented, except Kenwood. I don't know the actual reason they weren't there, but rumors were they are pulling out of

More >>>>>

Hamvention news, continued

amateur radio. Every provider of accessories like Heil, MFJ, BuddiPole, SteppIR, etc, etc, etc were well represented. Do-dads like connectors, adapters, power cords, cable, etc, etc, etc was available from Quick Silver, Tower Electronics, The Wireman, and others.



The flea market was indescribable. Several hundred tailgaters offered everything imaginable for sale. Items ranged from very old to very new. Some items homebrew, some items commercial, some items legacy, and all items at negotiable prices.



Unlike Hamvention at Hara's Arena, parking was free and readily available. All over the town of Xenia schoolyards and shopping centers were converted to

Hamvention parking. School buses ran constantly (max 10-15 minute wait) between the parking lots and the convention site. Rides on these buses were also free. The people of Xenia were amazingly cheerful and grateful for our presence.

Also, unlike Hamvention at Hara's Arena, was the food. Selection at Hara's was very limited, and there was lots of room for improvement of its quality. In Xenia we had a very big assortment of food. There were perhaps a dozen or more food trucks that served everything from Asian food, Hungarian food, Southern food, American standards like pizza, hot dogs and hamburgers, plus vendors of homemade ice cream, frozen cheesecake and so much more.

Every two hours a smaller prize (typically under \$200) was awarded to some lucky ticket holder. The hourly

prizes not picked up (because the ticket holder went home) were saved to be re-awarded on Sunday at 1 PM to patrons present for the drawing. After the hourly prizes were distributed, the ten larger prizes were awarded by pulling tickets from the drum of tickets. Winners did not need to be present for the larger prizes. These larger prizes were things like a 500 foot reel of coax and other items of similar value. The grand prize was a complete shack including an Icom IC-7851 and everything needed to go with it. The grand prize was worth over \$19,000.

I'm proud to say our club president, Steve NS4P has maintained his perfect record of never winning anything at Hamvention. Actually, this year, I didn't win anything either, but I did ask for a recount.



Our club was represented by the following, and possibly others that I'm not aware of. Steve NS4P, Patti N4IGI, Tom W1ICU, Jim W8MDM, Roger KY4RS, Al K0AL, Bob N1OK, Will WB8FXJ, and yours truly, W2XYZ.

It would be nice if there were more bright green shirts a Xenia. The next Hamvention is a little less than a year away, but maybe this is a good time to decide to attend. I truly think you will not be disappointed. This was my 26th time attending Hamvention and I can't wait for the next one to begin.

73, de Frank, W2XYZ

Frank checking out the ultimate HOA stealth antenna



Dwight Sullivan, KT4DDS, accepts Public Information Officer position at TARC

One of the things necessary for a successful ham radio club is getting the word out to potential hams /club members. Prior to Covid, Tom Porada, W4IEE did an exemplary job letting the world know about TARC. However, during the two-year hiatus caused by Covid, there was little to talk about; and afterward, HOA duties trumped all over Tom's TARC time. Hence – there's a new PIO in town!

Dwight Sullivan, KT4DDS, has stepped forward to take over the Public Information Officer duties for TARC. Dwight's background is in the semiconductor and IT business. He began his career with IBM in Burlington, VT, then took a leave of ten years to run his own computer services company, and returned to IBM for another 15 years.



Dwight's interest in ham radio started as a kid. Like many of us, acting on that interest was put on hold for years as jobs and family took precedence. He met Paul, KN4BAR, at the TARC setup at the Shark's Tooth Festival, where some of Paul's enthusiasm for the hobby rubbed off and stuck, and "the rest is history" as they say.

Dwight attended TARC-sponsored classes and obtained his Tech license in June, 2018, followed quickly by General in September '18, and Extra in 2021. He is active on DMR and 2-meters, and has a low-band rig patiently waiting for an antenna to get on the air. He has served as a Director throughout 2022. We welcome his involvement and contributions to the club de, K3SY

S.L.O.T (Simple. Low-cost. Obscured. Transmissions) Antenna

by Tom, KN4ONE

First – This is not an April fools HOA antenna article! It may be a way for the HOA challenged to put up a 2M or 70cm antenna. In my neighborhood it is customary to put metal scrap at the curb a day or so before trash day. It gets collected by a metal recycler and comes back as imported automobiles and Harbor Freight tools.



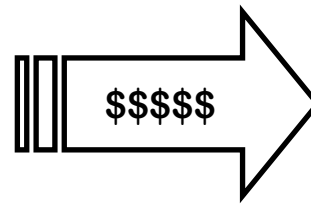
Recently I saw a scrap satellite TV dish at the curb and remembered reading an article about slot antennas. A couple hours later.... The dish was reborn as a 2M antenna. It was very easy to make. Just cut the slot to the proper length and attach a feedline at



the right location and it's done! I will leave the details for you to easily find on Al Gore's internet.

Does it work? Yes. I was full quieting through the W4AC repeater from 9.5 miles away using 10 Watts – off the back side of the dish. SWR was 1.4. Either the front or back can face the intended target, and nature somehow made a horizontal slot vertically polarized. Now go and challenge some rules!





Do some shopping on Amazon these days? Who doesn't? Remember, if you sign up for Amazon Smile and designate Tamiami Amateur Radio Club as the beneficiary, the club will get cash back for every purchase you make. Free money for the club!!!!

Missing the latest issue of "THE COMMUNICATOR" ?

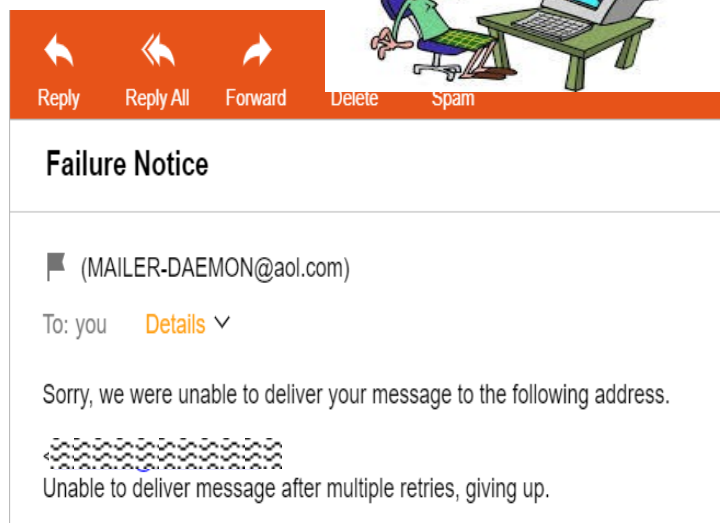


First, make sure you have paid your dues. Then make sure TARC has your latest email address. Then check your spam folder.

Lately each time I issue the latest version of "The Communicator", I get several failure notices as shown at right, and some members get spam notices as shown below.

It seems the TARC distribution list has gotten a bad rap as a spam generator.

How do we solve this? Not sure, but your best bet is to check the TARC web site - <https://tamiamiarc.org/tarc/files/Communicator.pdf> - the first of the month and download the latest issue. *de K3SY*





~ June, 2022 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
= Breakfast at Peaches (opens at 6, orders taken at 7)		~ See Groups.io for ZOOM sign-on	1 ~ Virtual breakfast via ZOOM 10 AM	2 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net	3 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A	4 Breakfast @ DAV 9:30 A BOD 1P
5	6	7 # DMR net 7:30 PM	8 ~ Virtual breakfast TARC MTG 7:00 PM @ Venice Presbyterian	9 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net	10 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A	11 Bkfst @ DAV 9:30 TARC VE session @ Venice Library 10 A
12	13 DARN net 11:00 AM Starts on NI4CE/rpt 145.43 pl100	14 # DMR net 7:30 PM	15 ~ Virtual breakfast via ZOOM 10 AM	16 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net	17 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A	18 Breakfast @ DAV 9:30 A
19	20	21 # DMR net 7:30 PM	22 ~ Virtual breakfast via ZOOM 10 AM	23 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net	24 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A	25 Breakfast @ DAV 9:30 A
26	27	28 # DMR net 7:30 PM	29 ~ Virtual breakfast via ZOOM 10 AM	30 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net		

DMR net on W4AC UHF repeater - 444.10 MHz - Talk Group 310442
 * 2 meter net on W4AC VHF repeater - 146.805 MHz, (-), PL 100 or W4AC-R EchoLink
 + 10 meter net on 28.460 MHz +/- 10 MHz (depending on band activity) immediately following 2 M net.

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 - Webmaster - Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR.

Editor - San Yoder, K3SY, who acknowledges and thanks these contributing writers this month: Steve Phillips, NS4P, Gary Youngberg, W8SKI, Jack Sproat, W4JS, Tom Babcock, KN4ONE, and Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ.

Articles of general interest to club members are solicited and welcomed. Please submit photos and/or copy (preferably in Word) to : k3sy@arrl.net. 73, San

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 New licensee: tested by TARC VE 1/1 to 10/31 - free to year end.
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Please note: After two month grace period thru Feb., non-renewals will be dropped.

TARC web site: <http://www.tamiamiarc.org>

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