



THE COMMUNICATOR



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

W4AC Repeaters: 444.100 MHz (DMR) & 146.805 MHz (-) (PL100 Analog)

Incorporated 1984

<http://www.tamiamiarc.org>

February, 2022

In this issue:

President's Message	1
Meeting Notice	1
Meeting Minutes	2-3
VEEP Bleeps	3
DX Jack's Page	4
Hamcation Bus & Mtg Location	5
AREDN Ant. Test	6
Tom's Tech Tips	7
Qs and Dues	8
KG4IYS & FT8	9
Random Dits & Dahs	10
Club Calendar	11
Membership Application	12

President's message.....NS4P

It's hamfest season! The calendar is packed with upcoming events – Arcadia, Hamcation, Sebring, Peace River, Dayton, Brooksville, Punta Gorda – the list goes on and on. I must confess to being a hamfest addict. Although I do cruise by the vendor tables and booths, the real attraction for me is the flea market a.k.a. tailgate/swap meet.

I can, and have, spent days going up and down the aisles looking at all the treasures. Connectors, project boxes, meters, rigs, microphones, antennas – you never know what you are going to find. At the last hamfest I attended, I saw a CW paddle made from two J-38 keys mounted back-to-back and turned sideways. I had never heard of or seen such a thing before. After consultation with some of the CW aficionados in the club I learned that this was a project in QST Magazine back in the day when J-38s were cheap and CW paddles were expensive. Sometimes you see things that are really clever and others might be solutions in search of a problem, but there is always something interesting to see.

For new hams, the flea market can be a trip through ham radio history. While I don't think I've ever seen a spark-gap transmitter for sale a good flea market can be a historical review. Walking around and asking questions is a full immersion learning experience. In most cases, you can pick up and examine the items for sale and ask questions about it. Truly a great way to look, listen, and learn.

For more experienced hams, a walk through the flea market can be a trip down memory lane. Do you miss that HW-101 you had as a kid? I saw three for sale, each fully restored, at a recent flea mar-

ket. Need a donor radio to finish the restoration of that classic? Boat anchors abound at every hamfest.

Items for sale are not limited to museum pieces either. At a recent event I counted four IC-7300s for sale – a couple of which were basically new in the box. Some were being sold for the estate of SKs, others were hams that wanted to upgrade to something even better.

Discussion of hamfest pricing and negotiations would fill a book. Suffice to say that the price sticker is just a starting point. While the best deals are usually found very early in the day, shopping later in the day can yield bargains since some guys are under orders to not bring anything back home (HiHiHi). For multi-day hamfests like Hamcation, the best deals are on Sunday, but that thing you really wanted might have sold on Saturday – if you see something you really, really want you should haggle to the best of your ability right then and there.

Hamfests are also a great way to help clean out your closet. For a generally nominal fee (\$5 to \$10 at local hamfest) you can get an outside spot where you can set up a table and put some items up for sale. I subscribe to the "sell it cheap and fast" theory figuring that I can use the cash more than I can use that thing I don't want any more.

So - grab a buddy and head to a hamfest and visit the flea market, for an hour or make a day of it. Even if you don't buy or sell anything, you are bound to see something interesting.

Happy hunting!



73, Steve

No dues?
Last Issue!

Next meeting 7:00 PM, Wednesday, February 09, 2021 at Venice Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 825 The Rialto, Venice 34285

TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB *Minutes of the 1/12/22 Meeting*

The monthly club meeting took place as a Zoom virtual meeting and was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Steve Phillips, NS4P. The pledge to the flag followed. The club welcomed a visitor W9TDP, Tom Pugh, and a new member, K4VMR, Arthur West-er.

MINUTES: Steve, NS4P; Requested a motion to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2021 meeting as published in The Communicator. Motion was made by Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR, seconded by Nancy Heinrich, N4ZM, and approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE: Gary Youngberg, W8SKI; reported receiving email correspondence mentioning renewal / annual report for Department of Secretary of State. Steve, NS4P, noted that several envelopes containing 2022 dues were passed to the Treasurer at a Peach's breakfast.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ (Absent), Report by Steve, NS4P; Beginning balance for December was \$16,284.26. During December the club received \$785.00 in normal income from dues, the 50/50 raffle, VE testing and miscellaneous income. In addition, the club received \$897.00 for holiday party tickets, \$205.00 in deposits for the Hamcation bus, and reserve fund contribution of \$167.00. The club had expenses of \$2,048.18 of which the major items were payment of \$1,134.00 to Left Coast Seafood for the holiday party and a \$500.00 donation to the Sarasota County Library System out of the accumulated VE funds over the last 3 years. Ending balance for December was \$16,290.08.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SUNSHINE: Jim Shortill, KJ4NDO; Mentioned Chet, KG4IYS, is recovering from recent surgery and is resting comfortably at home.

VE TESTING: Steve, NS4P; Reported 8 candidates passing VE administered tests; 2 upgrades from Tech to General, 1 passing the Tech & General and 5 passing Tech.

LIAISON TO QCWA: Al Culbert, K0AL; Explained that their January meeting took place with 19 attended. The club recognized that Captain Bob, W5GJ, has been active ham for 70 years. Their next meeting will take place February 7, 2022. QCWA membership is open to all hams licensed at least 25 years ago and does not need to be continuous. The local QCWA

meets at Denny's on Bee Ridge in Sarasota on the first Monday of every month and all are welcome.

REPEATER / TECHNICAL: Report given by Steve, N4SP; Reported the repeaters are working fine. The digital net is held on the club 444.100 DMR repeater using Talk Group 310442 and opens Tuesdays at 7:30 PM. The club 2m analog repeater frequency is 146.805 MHz (-) PL 100. The 2m net operates Thursdays at 7:30 PM. Hams can participate on the analog net via EchoLink using a computer, an iPhone, or an Android system-based phone. Click on W4AC-R (Node 513309) on the EchoLink directory screen to establish EchoLink contact. The 10m net is on frequency 28.460 MHz, Upper Side Band, and begins immediately after the conclusion of the 2m net.

Tom Wilson, W1ICU, continues to host, via Zoom, a Virtual Breakfast gathering on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. For details, please refer to the Groups.io site.

MEMBERSHIP: By Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR; There are now 126 regular members, 19 first year members, 5 associate members (no call sign), 10 life members, and 1 comp for a total membership of 161. All members are listed on the Members Only page on the TARC website. To date, 61 members have paid their dues for 2022. Please note the two-month grace period for payment of 2022 dues ends February 28th. All members are encouraged to pay their dues if they have not already done so.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Repeater Maintenance Team Update: Steve, NS4P; Current project is adjusting gain / sensitivity of VOX to improve audio quality of EchoLink.

2. Remote HF: Tom Shrilla, W8QJF; said the HF station is working well, normal performance. Gave information regarding HF antenna.

3. Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network (AREDN): Paul, KN4BAR; Three 2.4 GHz sector antennas have been installed on the tower. The 5 GHz link antenna will have to be put up later. We are waiting for SMH 5 GHz RF link directional antenna install. Some additional work needs to be done to complete the Internet tunnel. Steve, NS4P noted that Chet, KG4IYS, had arranged for the tower climbers to return and will try to move the 2.4 GHz sector antennas up the tower so they are 150 feet or higher.

4. Bus to Hamcation: Steve, NS4P; A charter bus has been reserved for transportation to the Hamcation

Continued >>>>>

TARC Minutes, continued

site. The bus will depart Venice USCGA at 6:30AM Saturday February 12 (don't be late!). Based on social media posts and direct contact with members of the Hamcation committee, the event will be held as scheduled. Fifteen club members signed up for transportation at this time. Cost of ride \$40.00 (\$42 if using PayPal), seats are reserved with a deposit of \$10.00.

5. Jerry Spears Memorial Update: Steve, NS4P; Seeking ALS 600 Amplifier and Antenna Tuner for future use with Field Day events.

6. Financial Audit: Peter Boers, KV4LR: Deferred to next meeting. Mentioned audit is not required but is done for due diligence, with last audit completed five years ago.

7. 2022 Budget Committee: Paul, KN4BAR: Explained summary of Budget for 2022, estimate forecast generally \$8,000.00 for Income and similar, \$8,000.00 for Expense. A motion was made by Nancy Heinrich, N4ZM, to accept the 2022 budget, and was seconded by Patti Phillips, N4IGI. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

8. Winter Field Day 2022: Steve, NS4P; Taking place Jan. 29 & 30. Event is not operating as a group per Covid concerns. Instead, members can participate individually from their own QTH or from other individual field locations. Max TX power is 100W or QRP, using individual call signs. Logs should be submitted crediting **Tamiami Amateur Radio Club** to count towards club recognition.

9. Holiday Party: Jim, KJ4NDO; Mentioned 44 attended the holiday party at Left Coast Seafood. Service was good and the event was much enjoyed by all.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bouvet Island 3Y0J DXpedition: Steve, NS4P; This QTH is well sought for DXpedition due to its unique location near Antarctica. Funding of DXpedition venture is expensive, about \$750,000.00. The possibility of TARC making a reasonable donation is expected at a future meeting.

2. Shark's Tooth 10K Run: Steve, NS4P: Takes place March 5 & 6 at Rothenbach Park. The N4SER repeater 147.390 MHz PL tone 100 Hz will be used. Members of TARC will provide communications and support for this event.

4. Meeting Place / Status for February 2022 Club Meeting: In person or Zoom will be discussed at next B.O.D. meeting for February.

Adjournment was at 7:58 PM with motion by Nancy, N4ZM, seconded by Chet, KG4IYS, and passed by voice vote. There were 23 members and one visitor at the meeting.

Program: Tom Porada, W4IEE, presented "Water Heaters, Reverse Cycle, Refrigerant / Compressor Technology".

Respectfully submitted, Gary Youngberg, W8SKI, Recording Secretary

VEEP Bleeps

Share Your Knowledge or Tell a Good Story

After every club meeting we try to have an informational program. Now that we are returning to in person meetings (soon I hope) we need to line up a few presenters. Most of us have years of experience in amateur radio and in whatever our chosen professions are or were. Why not share some of your knowledge and experience with fellow club members. Talks are always informal and should be no longer than 20-30 minutes. Audio visual aids such as powerpoint, pictures, or video are certainly nice to have but they are not required or even essential to making a good presentation. If you have a topic and would like to share please contact me for more information and to schedule your presentation to the club. **Paul, KN4BAR, VP-TARC.**



Many Club Outings This Year....Get Your TARC Colors to Wear

TARC club polo shirts are available for purchase locally from the Embroidery Patch located at 208 Warfield Ave. Suite D in Venice. Cost is \$33 including embroidery of your first name and call sign. Shirts are available in both lady's and men's sizes. You can also choose from a variety of other apparel items to have the club logo embroidered on such as jackets, button-down shirts, or hoodies. Orders can be placed by telephone using your credit card by calling 941-488-0001. Just ask for the TARC radio club shirt. It takes a week or two to get your shirt and you will need to stop by the store to pick it up. Visit their website:



<http://www.theembroiderypatch.com/>



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
Tanzania – 5H3EE	Resident Op	87	NO	00-03	23-04	21-02	19-24	17-23	13-21	1700
Mauritania – 5T5PA by PA5X, FT8 (so far)	Now to ???	83	23-07	21-10	20-06	17-24	12-21	13-20	1400	NO
Egypt – SU9VB by UA4WHX, CW/SSB	Now to ???	54	0200	22-06	21-07	20-01	12-18	13-16	14-15	13-16
Antarctica – ZS7ANF, CW	Now to ???	159	NO	02-04	00-06	22-08	21-05	NO	NO	NO
Wallis & Futuna – FW1JG by F4CIX, SB/Digi	Now to ???	260	--	--	--	02-10	--	20-02	--	NO
Fernando de Noronha – PU2MEA/PY0F, QRP	Now to 26 Nov	115	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	16-21
Cyprus – 5B4ARC by DK6SP, part time CW	Now to 27 Jul	48	01-03	22-06	21-07	1400	12-16	13-16	1400	NO
Honduras – HR5/F2JD, CW	Now to 05 April	200	23-13	20-16	00-24	12-08	13-24	14-23	16-22	NO
Thailand – HS0ZME by SM6NT, CW	Now to 05 April	<u>176</u>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	<u>1500</u>
Namibia – V51WH by DK2WH, CW/SB/FT8	Now to 31 Mar	107	0200	23-06	22-06	20-07	18-24	17-24	12-20	13-19
Senegal – 6W7/F6HJM, CW/SSB, holiday stl	Now to 22 Feb	87	--	21-10	20-06	17-01	12-22	13-22	1400	NO
Montserrat – VP2MDX by W2APF, CW/SSB	Now to 18 Feb	115	22-12	20-14	00-24	00-24	12-01	12-24	13-23	13-23
Sint Maarten – PJ7/VA3QSL, CW/SSB/Digi	Now to 06 Feb	113	22-12	20-14	00-24	00-24	12-01	12-24	13-23	14-23
Kuwait – 9K9NLD, National Liberation Day	01 – 28 Feb	44	0200	23-04	22-05	23-24	12-15	13-15	14-15	NO
Suriname – PZ5KV by DL6KVA, CW	01 – 10 Feb	126	23-11	21-12	20-13	11-24	12-23	13-23	NO	NO
Zimbabwe – Z22O/Z21A by DL Ops, all mod	03 – 20 Feb	97	NO	00-04	23-05	21-02	19-23	18-22	14-21	14-19
Ivory Coast – TU5PCT by 3 Op team, all mod	04 – 13 Feb	90	00-06	22-08	21-08	18-05	17-24	12-24	12-23	13-20
Nepal – 9N7AA by S53R (ex-T6AA)	05 Feb to ???	13	NO	NO	NO	0100	NO	NO	NO	NO
Senegal – 6W/ON4AVT, SSB/Digital	06 Feb to 10 Apr	87	23-08	21-10	20-06	17-01	12-22	13-20	1400	NO
Maldives – 8Q7AH by LU4DXU, SSB/FT8	08 – 15 Feb	40	NO	2400	22-24	20-23	17-23	13-22	14-17	15-16
St Kitts & Nevis – V4/KG9N	08 Feb to 01 Mar	114	22-12	20-14	00-24	00-24	12-01	12-24	13-23	14-23
Ogasawara – JE1XUZ/JD1, CW/SSB/FT8	12 – 15 Feb	318	NO	08-13	07-14	2200	21-24	22-24	22-23	NO
Maldives – 8Q7MM/8Q7WX by OK ops	12 Feb to 08 Mar	40	NO	NO	0200	20-23	17-22	13-22	14-17	NO
Greenland – OX7AM/OX7AKT by OZ Ops	17 – 22 Feb	19	00-11	21-12	19-06	13-24	14-22	16-19	NO	NO
St Vincent – J88PI by GW4DVB, SSB, FT8	24 Feb to 08 Mar	121	--	20-13	00-24	00-24	12-02	15-24	13-24	13-23
Sint Maarten – PJ7AA by F4CIX, SSB, Digi	26 Feb to 26 Mar	113	22-12	20-14	00-24	00-24	12-01	12-24	13-24	14-23

Prepared 30 January 2022 based on <https://www.ng3k.com/>, *The Weekly DX* 22-04, *ARLD004*, and the *Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin* No. 1546.

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/>.

-- JANUARY SOLAR ACTIVITY --

From 01 through 30 January, the 10.7 cm Solar Flux ranged from 84 to 130, with a mean value of 102.9. The A_p index was ≥ 7 on 20 days during that period. Sunspot regions were visible on every day, varying from one to eight groups. There were 72 C-class flares over 20 days and five M-class flares on five days during the period. An R2 geomagnetic storm occurred 15 Jan.

-- FEBRUARY FORECAST --

Solar activity is expected to be at very low to low levels on 01 - 02 Feb and 17-19 Feb. Very low to low levels, with a slight chance for R1 (Minor) radio blackouts, is expected on 03-16 Feb due to the return of old active region 2929.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at unsettled to active levels on 04-05, 10-12, 20-23 and 25-26 Feb due to negative polarity CH HSS activity.

The solar flux should range from 87 to 110, and average 98.9 for the month of February.

From *NOAA Weekly Highlights and Forecasts*, 24 January 2022, *NOAA 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table*, 24 January 2022, and *45 Day AP Forecast*, USAF, 24 January 2022.

-- THE MOST WANTED DX --

Courtesy of <https://dxnews.com/> here's the 20 January 2022 ClubLog ranking of the top 15 Most Wanted DXCC entities.

1. P5 DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2. 3Y/B BOUVET ISLAND
3. FT5/W CROZET ISLAND
4. BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF
5. CE0X SAN FELIX ISLANDS
6. BV9P PRATAS ISLAND
7. KH7K KURE ISLAND
8. KH3 JOHNSTON ISLAND
9. 3Y/P PETER 1 ISLAND
10. FT5/X KERGUELEN ISLAND
11. FT/G GLORIOSO ISLAND
12. VK0M MACQUARIE ISLAND
13. YV0 AVES ISLAND
14. KH4 MIDWAY ISLAND
15. ZS8 PRINCE EDWARD & MARION ISLANDS

Time and age are enemies of the serious DXer. Many of these entities were last activated years ago: Pratas Is – 1998, Bouvet Is – 2000, Peter 1 Is – 2006 and Scarborough Reef – 2007. At least Bouvet should show up the end of 2022, but no hints on any of the others.



Your club, the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, is chartering a bus to HAMCATION. The bus will leave the Coast Guard Aux Station on Harbor Rd (near Sharkey's) on Saturday Feb 12 at 6:30 AM. It will then proceed to the Red Cross Building in Sarasota to pick up additional passengers. Next stop will be the main gate at HAMCATION.

The bus will remain on site all day in case you want to deposit your newly acquired boat anchors in it's huge luggage compartment or maybe you just need a quiet place to sit down and relax awhile. The bus leaves HAMCATION at 5 PM to make its return trip to our area. As in the past, the bus ride is one of the most enjoyable parts of the day. Food, drink, and lively conversations make the time go by quickly.

So, how do you sign-up for the bus? The bus ride, including a tip for the driver costs \$40 (or \$42 if paying via PayPal). With gas being over \$3 per gallon, the average car will consume at least \$40 worth of gas to make the round trip. You can reserve a seat on the bus for \$10 (\$11 PayPal) and pay the remaining \$30 (\$31 PayPal) on the bus or anytime before then. Use the PayPal logo on our web page or give the money to me or any club officer at one of our informal breakfast gatherings. Don't want to use PayPal and don't go out for breakfast, then mail the money to the club for your seat.

I advise you not to wait until the last minute to reserve a seat as this trip is open to anyone wishing to come with us. Englewood and Sarasota clubs have already made this information available to their members and several of their members have already signed up. The bus holds 55 Hams, don't be Ham number 56 to reserve your seat.

Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ

Unless you just got licensed this morning, you already know the second largest hamfest in the country is happening in Orlando on February 11,12,13 of this year. That's right, HAMCATION is happening this year after taking a hiatus for COVID in 2021. From what I'm hearing, all the vendors we are accustomed to will be there.

That means you can spin the knobs of the new models from your favorite manufacturer. It means you can ask questions about antennas from the people that make them. You can play with virtually every gizmo MFJ sells. Adapters, connectors, powerpoles, coax, and everything else your radio heart desires will be there. That's what you'll find inside the two exhibitor halls, then there is a hall with used equipment and accessories, plus acres of tailgaters selling everything imaginable.

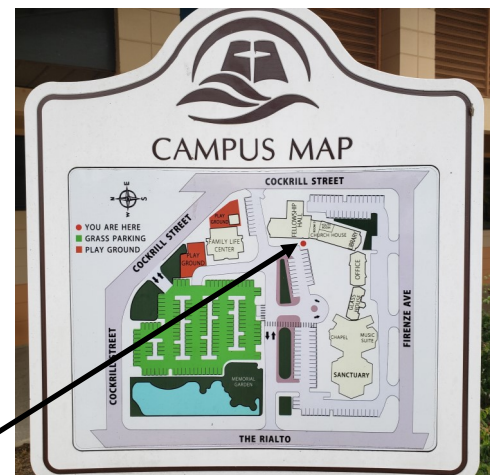
The downside to all of this is HAMCATION is about 150 miles away and takes two and a half hours to drive there under good conditions. When it's time to leave, it's another 150 mile drive for two and a half hours to get back home. Although a good time can be had at HAMCATION, going there and coming back is something that keeps many hams from attending. Taa-Daaaaah! There is an easy solution to this problem. Take the TARC bus.

February TARC meeting to be held at Venice Presbyterian Church



With the uncertainty of the status of the Coast Guard Training Center, we are trying out a new venue for TARC meetings. The February meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall of Venice Presbyterian Church. VPC is located at 825 The Rialto just south of Venice Hospital.

ENTER HERE



How many hams does it take to raise an AREDN antenna?

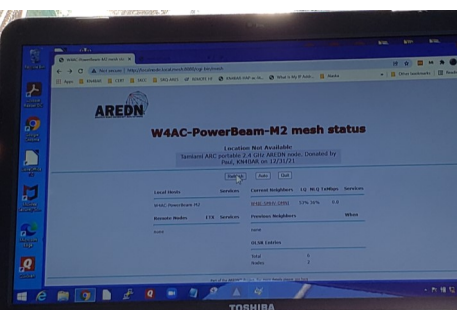
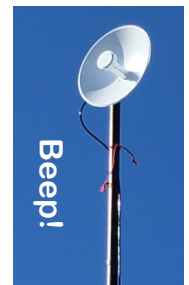
Four TARCnicians test mesh connectability from the Coast Guard Training Center Location.



Paul, you have to put the doohickey in the slot before attaching the thingamajig. No, Tom, the whatchamacallit has to be wrapped around the gizmo first.



The AREDN antenna test was a semi-success. After a first attempt to raise the fiberglass mast resulted in a mast failure, the mast was shortened. At the lower height, a signal was obtained from the SMH-Venice site, but no signal was heard from the W4AC repeater site. Further tests are planned from various other locations in the area.





W8QJF Tom Shrilla

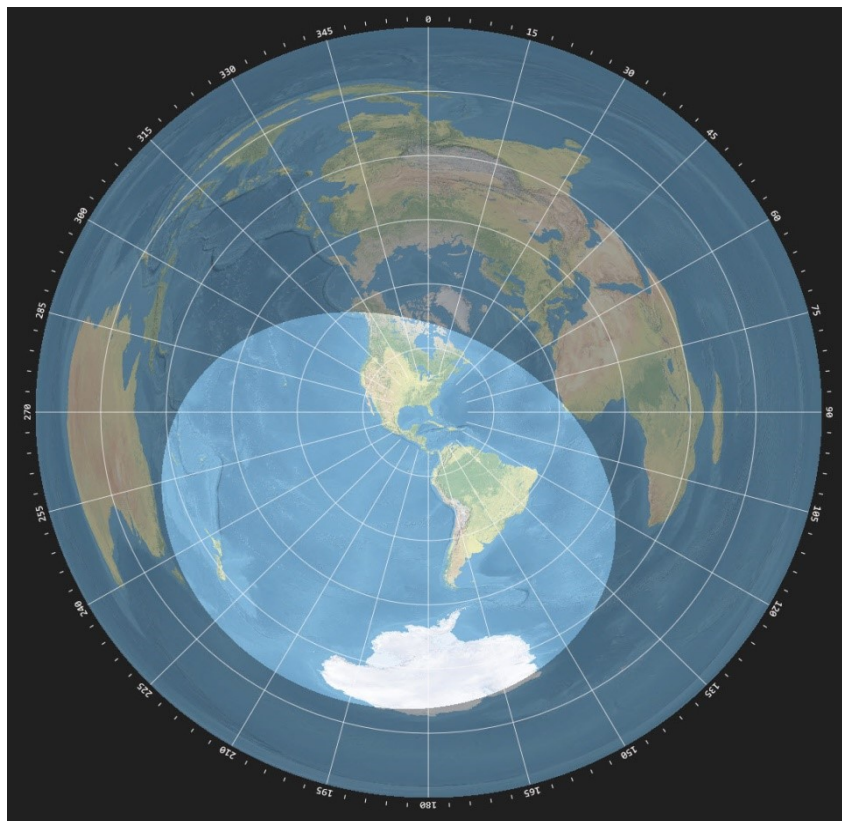
TOM'S TECH TIPS: Free "Geochron": Simon's World Map

I always wanted a Geochron but way too expensive even for the official software version to hook up to a 4K monitor. This gets the job done for exploiting greyline propagation, and it's free! <https://www.dit-dit-dit.com/world-map> It amazes me how people were ever able to predict astronomical things way back before they had computers. Note Microsoft Visual C++ is required to run this, but you are prompted for a safe download during installation. It shows current time, sunrise/sunset, Grayline map, DX stations, country prefixes, Great Circle, etc.

WARNING: Once you start this thing it's difficult to let go! Note: Venice, FL is 26.124161 N -80.143593 W



W8QJF



Great Circle

QSL bureau cards – what I got *by Tom Porada, WA1EE*

I received a package of 87 QSL cards recently from the W4 bureau. This was the largest number I have ever received in one package. I was curious as to the breakdown of the timing for them to get to me and to see what other gems of wisdom I might run into. Here's what I found.

Category		QSLs		Months In Transit Average
		Rcv'd	%	
Round Trip	Sent QSL out, got one back in response	49	56	27.2 (2 way trip)
New Requests	Both hams requested QSLs at same time	21	44	18.6 (1 way trip)
	Other ham requested QSL first	14		
Not In Log	Not in log for unknown reason	2		
QSL Not Wanted	This was a Japanese flower show, no cards wanted	1		
Total		87	100	

Thoughts

If you are going to use the bureaus for DX cards you better prime the pump early as it takes > 2 years to get some cards back.

I send out 200-500 bureau cards per year and only get about a 30-40% return. But, I do like collecting them. I enjoy seeing the design creativity of other hams from around the world.

A message from Paul, KN4BAR, VP, TARC Webmaster & Membership Coordinator

TARC annual dues are \$20 for an individual or \$25 for a family membership payable on January 1st of each year. As of January, 2022, a number of members have not yet indicated they want to continue their relationship with TARC by submitting their dues.

There is a 60 day grace period for dues payment; but prompt renewals are appreciated. On March 1st of each year any member that has not yet renewed their membership will be dropped from the club roster and removed from the monthly newsletter distribution list.

Membership offers many benefits including monthly meetings with information programs and participation in club radio events. The most recent event was Winter Field Day last weekend, in which a number of club members participated. Details can be found on our website at <https://tamiamiarc.org/events/event/winter-field-day/>. For the second year TARC will again charter a bus for travel to and from Hamcation in Orlando, FL on February 12th. It is not too late to reserve your seat on the bus. Details on our website at: <https://tamiamiarc.org/events/event/hamcation/>

The annual Venice Shark's Tooth Festival is coming up in April, where TARC will operate a special event station (K4S) from that venue. Summer Field Day is just around the corner the last weekend in June, and once again the club will operate multiple stations to participate in this event.

The club operates and maintains two repeaters, an AREDN mesh node, and a remote HF station for our members to use. Membership does have its benefits!

Dues may be paid in person at any club meeting or at one of our breakfast get-togethers: Tuesday at Peach's, Friday at Perkins, or Saturday at the DAV in Nokomis. You may also mail in your dues payment to: TARC, PO Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34275. Or, you have an online PayPal payment option on our website at: <https://tamiamiarc.org/membership-application/membership-renewals/>

We hope you will consider remaining a member of our great club, and that you will join us in participating in the many ham radio related events supported by the club each year.



Chet Fennell, KG4IYS joins WSJT-X development team

Did you see this item in the January ARRL Letter about WSJT-X updates? Here's how the article reads:

“The WSJT development group has released a ‘bug-fix’ update of WSJT-X - version 2.5.4.”

“The primary fix repairs a defect that caused occasional crashes when contacting stations with non-standard call signs. It also allows [MAP65](#)’s ‘best-fit Delta Phi (Dphi)’ solution to be displayed to the user. The WSJT development group has welcomed new members **Chet Fennell, KG4IYS**, and Dr. Uwe Risse, DG2YCB. ‘Each brings important skills and experience[s] to the project, after the loss of Bill Somerville, G4WJS,’ said Joe Taylor, K1JT, on behalf of the group. ‘The newly constituted group has been working to redefine standard operating procedures for new releases.’ [Installation packages](#) for WSJT-X are available for Windows and Linux. An installation package for macOS will be added soon.”

So, if you are an avid FT-8 user, an occasional user, or one who is looking to ‘test the waters’ of the digital modes, be aware that TARC member Chet Fennell, KG4IYS has a lot to do with improvements to the WSJT-X program. Chet has vast experience in computer program development, and has been involved since the early days when the industry was learning to walk. Here’s a bit of information about Chet’s background, and about some of the contacts and experiences he has had over the years:

Chet started his career as a physicist in Navy research for a few years, then was lured to IBM where he developed operating systems and hypervisors, etc. for 13 years. From there he migrated to senior management at ITT for 4 ½ years. Data Point was his next one year stop where one of the first mini-computers was being developed; but a Wall Street arbitrage ended the company.

The mid-eighties saw Chet become President of Enmasse, a startup company developing fault-tolerant computers, for a one year stay, after which he performed consulting work for a short time, then moved on to another startup telecommunications switch company (Timeplex), perhaps looking for some variety in his work experience.

Timeplex was purchased by Unisys; Chet worked there as executive VP for five years until it was sold to Swiss ASCOM, at which point he transitioned to President of Formation, where RAID computing started. During his three years at Formation, the company developed backup communications for the country’s air traffic control systems as well as the FDDI ring for the Boeing 777 video systems, which required “floating” disc drives.

MFS, a telecom switch company held Chet’s attention for about a year where the means to collect tolls from Joe Highway User were developed and installed



throughout the US, until it was bought by Worldcom.

Chet’s final eight years pre-retirement were spent as Executive Vice President at Tekelec, a telecom signaling business.

During his super-varied career, Chet “rubbed elbows” with some notable people. To name a few:

Rand Araskog, Chairman of ITT

W. Michael Blumenthal, Chairman of Unisys and member of the Carter Administration Cabinet

James Unruh, chief executive at Memorex and Unisys

Bob Evans, executive at IBM, started the IBM/360 program

Bill Gates, with whom he had discussions where their opinions diverged.

Dr. Tom Love, co-creative of Objective-C - the basis for Apple programs.

Therefore, you might deduce that Chet has a background that will serve the ham community well as he digs deeper into the programming of WSJT-X.

de K3SY

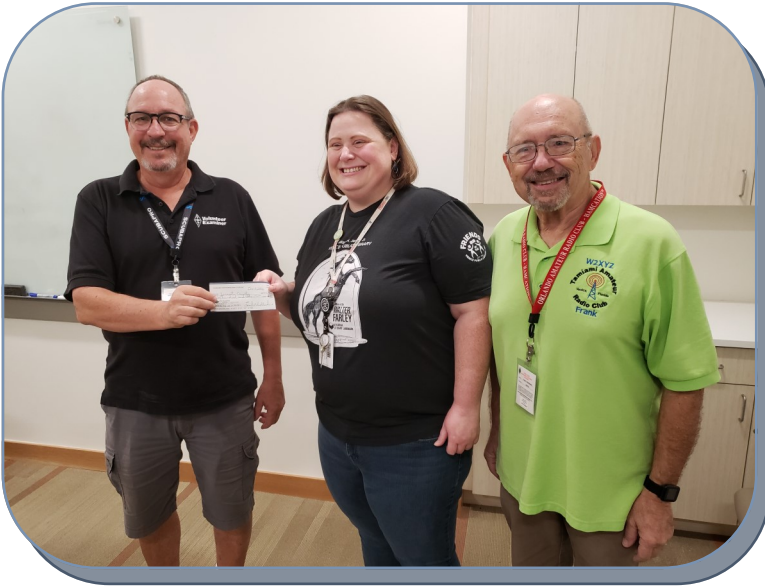


Random Dits and Dahs

Library donation

At the December VE session Steve, NS4P, and Frank, W2XYZ, present a check for \$500 to Venice Library Director, Katherine (Katie) Dow for use of library facilities for VE testing.

Of the \$15.00 fee charged for testing, \$12.00 is sent to ARRL, and \$3.00 is retained for TARC expenses. Money left after supply costs are covered is donated to the library.



QCWA CONNECTION

The January meeting of Chapter 53 of QCWA saw more anniversary awards bestowed upon TARC members.

Below left - Stew Haag, W4MO received awards for seventy and seventy-five years of service.

Below right - 'Captain' Bob Schneider, W5GJ, accepts his seventy year service award.

Right - Steve Hawley, K4EU, displays his recently acquired ARRL - DXCC award.

Congratulations to all recipients. Word has it more awards will be presented at the February meeting.





~ February, 2022 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Peaches opens at 6 AM. Orders taken at 7</i></p>	<p>~ See <i>Groups.io</i> for ZOOM sign-on</p>	<p>1 Breakfast @ Peaches 6 - 7 AM # DMR net 7:30 PM</p>	<p>2  ~ Virtual breakfast via ZOOM 10 AM</p>	<p>3 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net</p>	<p>4 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A</p>	<p>5 Breakfast @ DAV 9;30 A BOD 1P</p>
6	<p>7 QCWA 11 AM @ Denny's Bee Ridge</p>	<p>8 Breakfast @ Peaches 6 - 7 AM # DMR net 7:30 PM</p>	<p>9 ~ Virtual breakfast TARC MTG 7:00 PM @ Venice Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>10 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net</p>	<p>11 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A</p>	<p>12 Breakfast @ DAV 9;30 A</p>
13	<p>14  DARN net 11:00 AM Starts on NI4CE/rpt 145.43 pl100</p>	<p>15 Breakfast @ Peaches 6 - 7 AM # DMR net 7:30 PM</p>	<p>16 ~ Virtual breakfast via ZOOM 10 AM</p>	<p>17 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net</p>	<p>18 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A</p>	<p>19 Bkfst @ DAV 9;30 TARC VE session @ Venice Library 10 A</p>
20	21	<p>22 Breakfast @ Peaches 6 - 7 AM # DMR net 7:30 PM</p>	<p>23 ~ Virtual breakfast via ZOOM 10 AM</p>	<p>24 * 2 meter net 7:30 PM followed by + 10 meter net</p>	<p>25 Breakfast @ Perkins 9A</p>	<p>26 Breakfast @ DAV 9;30 A</p>
27	<p>28 Grace period for dues payment ends to-day</p>					

**PLEASE NOTE
NEW LOCATION**

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 Shrilla, W8QJF, Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR, Tom Porada, W4IEE, 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

2022 TARC officers:

President

Steve Phillips NS4P
sphillips3@gmail.com

Vice president

Paul Nienaber KN4BAR
paul9aber@gmail.com

Secretary

Gary Youngberg W8SKI
secretary@tamiamiarc.org

Treasurer

Frank Wroblewski W2XYZ
w2xyz@arrl.net

Directors:

Peter Boers	KV4LR	peterboers@ieee.org
Andy Durette	KB1HIP	af_durette@hotmail.com
Patti Phillips	N4IGI	pat.phillips3@gmail.com
Jim Shortill	KJ4NDO	jnmnshortill@netscape.net
Tom Shrilla	W8QJF	tshrilla@gmail.com
Dwight Sullivan	KT4DDS	dwrightsull@gmail.com
San Yoder	K3SY	k3sy.73@verizon.net
John Zenner	N3PQD	johnzenner@att.net

TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. - Membership Application

NAME _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL ? Yes ___ No ___

2nd Fam. Memb. [or YL/OM] _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL ? Yes ___ No ___

LOCAL ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____ e-mail _____

SUMMER ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ ALT. e-mail _____

Application date _____ PAYMENT: Amount _____ by: Check ___ Cash ___ PayPal ___ First year free ___

For payments by mail send to:

TAMIAMI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

PO Box 976

Nokomis, FL 34274

Web site www.tamiamiarc.org payments accepted via PayPal [Add \$1.00 convenience fee].

Dues:

Regular member: \$20.00/year

After 6/1 - \$10.00 to year end. After 10/31 \$20.00 thru next year.

Family membership: \$25.00/year. Non-voting student: \$5.00/year.

New licensee: tested by TARC VE 1/1 to 10/31 - free to year end.

11/1 to 12/31 - free thru next year.

Please note: After two month grace period thru Feb., non-renewals will be dropped.

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

Contact: Secretary, Gary Youngberg, W8SKI - secretary@tamiamiarc.org

