



ARASWF

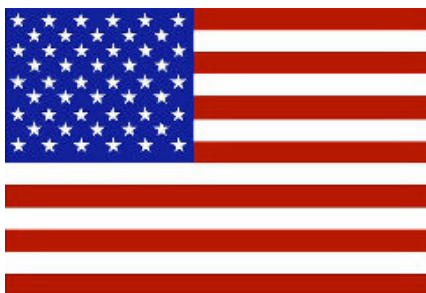
Newsletter



Vol.XVII No.9

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The Journal of The Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida



GOD BLESS AMERICA

KE4JZT

September 2001

The second week of this month has brought to all of us a sense of disbelief, tragedy, frustration, and feelings of care, concern and overwhelming patriotism following the attacks and destruction in both New York City and Washington, D.C. The week was also compounded with tropical storm Gabrielle coming ashore in the Venice-Sarasota Area.

Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 11th, this station as a MAES member was put on communications alert which did not stand down until Saturday. Additionally checked into the Collier County emergency net on Thursday evening which went on standby awaiting for further information. The Collier County Red Cross also went on Disaster Relief alert.

Many of us have friends or relatives that have been seriously affected by the terrorist attacks. In this area there has been flooding, wind damage, and beach erosion from the storm. These events demonstrate the important need for emergency communications support in our area that our club must support.

From Jeff, NJ2F

Sorry, But too upset to give a Sept. Newsletter Report. Attached are photos from my good friend John, W2PQK who lives in downtown, New York within 2 miles of the World Trade Center. I spoke to him on 17 meters and 15 meters within a few hours of the terrorist attack. These are the pictures he sent me. It was a horrible, horrible day for America. God Bless America



From the Editor

This month has been different for all of us. There has been quite a bit of comment on the repeaters regarding the tragedy. It has affected all of us in different ways. Many of us have friends or colleagues that worked with in the past that live in the areas. As of the writing of this editorial, there are several of my son's close friends that are still missing at the Pentagon. My son-in-law was twenty minutes behind schedule Tuesday morning for an appointment at the Pentagon. Needless to say he never made it and all our family have given thanks to God for his well being.

Between this tragedy and the tropical storm we have been served a reminder of our need for radio operators during emergencies. The ARRL has indicated today that there is still a need for hand held VHF communicators in both NYC and DC. Although There was not a call for operators at the shelters during the storm. We need to be ready to support the communications needs of the EOC and the Red Cross.

The club needs a person to coordinate the support of these needs and to coordinate some training for those operators at the various locations in the county. It should be noted that in both NYC and DC the cell phones were overloaded or were out and the only reliable communication was the radios.

Remember that this month we are still at the Church for our meeting. In October we will start to hold the club meetings at the Red Cross Chapter House.

73 de K2ZEL

Minutes of August Meeting

The August meeting of the ARASWF was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the church by the president KE4JZT. The minutes of the July meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given. The club funds at this time are \$1560.31 with all current bills paid. The report was approved.

Jordan, WB2QLP, gave a report on the progress at the station at the Red Cross Chapter House. The station has been tested on the air and is operational using the Tri-bander beam. A paper log is there for operators to log the use of the station. The station is available for members to use during working hours 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday. Requests to use the station during other hours should be scheduled through the secretary (i.e. for contests etc.) It was suggested that either the club call or the individual call be used for station use except when activated for emergencies the club call be used exclusively. Members are reminded to use the facilities IAW their personal license privileges.

Mike Myerson, Disaster Chairman of Red Cross, discussed with the club the facilities at the Red Cross and summarized the potential use of the facility with the club. There was considerable discussion on the requirements for the manning of the station during emergencies. The problems related to message handling and the training that will be necessary as the club supports this station during time of need.

The secretary was directed to provide a current copy of the list of club members that are authorized to use the station. This list will be maintained at the welcome desk at the Chapter House. Members using the station during the week will sign-in at the desk and get a key to the station. The member will also sign in at the station and give a short comment on his activity during the session. There will be a folder of general instruction concerning the station and the general rules at the station.

The secretary reported of the meeting with the executive director of the Red Cross Chapter relative to the use of the Chapter House for the regularly schedule club meetings. The membership voted unanimously to hold the regularly scheduled meeting of the club starting with the October meeting at the Red Cross Chapter House. The information regarding the change will be published in the newsletter and will be also noted on the web site.

Eric, W4GIZ, reported on activities at the EOC. He reported that the station call for the EOC is now WB2WPA in memory of Gary Arnold. He indicated that there have been changes at the site and invited members to come and see the center. He also indicated that the Skywarn training will be held on Sept. 29, 2001 from 10 to 12 am.

The 50-50 collected \$18.00. K4GP won the drawing and donated his share to the club. New member Jorge C. Fernandez, KF4PGH, was welcomed into the club. He recently moved to the area from the east coast.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Respectively submitted

G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL

Skywarn Training

The skywarn training for Collier County has been moved to Saturday September 29, 2001 at 10:00 AM. Training will last approximately 2 hours and will be held in the EOC. All those planning to attend please contact me and let me know so we will have an accurate count of the class size. Thanks and hope to see you there.

Eric Gissendaner, Coordinator
Collier County Skywarn

Club Radio Station Rules

The ARASWF Radio Station, K4YHB, located at the Collier County Red Cross Chapter House, 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive, Naples, FL, 34119 is available for use by current club members in good standing during normal business hours. The station will also be available for use for use in participating in special events at other time through arrangement with the station committee in accordance with the rules set forth herein. Club members will staff the station during declared emergencies supporting the communications requirements of the county and the Red Cross.

The executive board of the club requests that members using the club station follow these rules that will be posted at the station.

- I. During normal business hours members wishing to use the station will sign in at the visitors log at the counter in the Chapter House. The operator will show his current membership card and request that the station be opened. At the counter there will be a current roster of club members that will be updated monthly by the club secretary.
- II. The member will also sign the station notebook completing the data requested there each time that he uses the station. Members may use their personal call sign (portable) or may use the club call sign. Operators are reminded to operate the station within their personal license privileges.
- III. When closing down the station, the member will be sure to disconnect all antennas. The operator will also complete the station log and the station notebook. He will then indicate at the counter that he has closed the station and request that it be locked.
- IV. During stated emergencies the designated station manager will be the control operator for the station. The station under these conditions will use the club call and will keep a special emergency log including copies of all message traffic. The designated station manager will designate the operator shifts during the emergency and all operators will sign the emergency log.

These rules are effective on the first day of October 2001 subject to approval by the club membership.

ARASWF club President

Red Cross Disaster Communications Crew

The club station located at the Chapter House will need a six man crew to man the station during declared emergencies. The station will need a station manager/ coordinator holding at least a general class license and five additional operators to provide communications between the Red Cross, EOC, and the area shelters. The operators would work in eight hour shifts throughout the time needed. If you have traffic handling experience and/ or disaster communications training you would be a most welcome volunteer. If you would like to volunteer and need some training, training will be provided. Communication operations will take place on both HF and VHF.

Sign Up with the club secretary at one of the club meetings or contact him by e-mail.

THIS COULD BE YOU!

Quoting the originator and the Florida Contest Group.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Thomas C. Jednacz" <tjednacz@ieee.org>

Subject: RE: [FCG] Suspected lightning hit

Hi George, sorry about the problem. I have a giant surge protector on the incoming power behind the meter. Florida Power installed it and it costs me about \$8 per month. They insure every motor in the house (including air conditioning compressor motor) if the surge protector does not stop lightning damage. Cheap insurance for the 220 volt line. I have an extensive grounding system on my tower - 6 ground rods to prevent ground saturation during a strike (they must be spaced and wired properly) and all the ground systems tied together. Have been hit 5 or 6 times with no damage. I disconnect all the lines going out of the shack during a storm. Telephone and cable TV are also protected with surge suppressors. Only damage on the telephone line was a couple of computer modems. Seems the computer modem is extra sensitive because the telephone (electronic version) on the same line was not damaged. Hope this helps. Tom, W7QF

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-fcg@qth.net [mailto:owner-fcg@qth.net] On Behalf Of Georgek5kg@aol.com

Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 02:16

To: fcg@qth.net

Subject: [FCG] Suspected lightning hit

Hi Gang, Well, put me on the I-think-lightning-got-me list. I got home in the wee hours Saturday morning after being gone on a biz trip. I turned on the rig and the computer only to find some really squirly things.

- Cable modem and Linksys router are inop
- Icom 781 working aok, but lost computer control and automatic antenna switching
- Icom IC4KL will not turn on
- Antennas, computer and telephones are aok
- Two TV's kaput

I notified my homeowners insurance carrier (USAA) on Saturday and they will have an adjuster contact me on Tuesday to discuss investigation of my claim, repairs, etc.

If any of you have had experience with ICOM repair services, please let me know. Otherwise, I have successfully used KK7TV in Phoenix for ICOM repairs. Also, if any of you have installed lightning protection devices on your primary service coming into the house, or if you have 220 vac surge protectors for your amps, please let me know. I am considering such. I have my coax and rotor cables protected with ICE devices, but my primary power, telephone and cable are not protected.

73 & tnx....geo George I. Wagner, K5KG

Club Information

Meeting Time:

**4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm at The
Shepherd of the Glades Church
Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples**

Club Repeater:

K4YHB – 146.670 MHz (-600)

RACES/EOC Repeater

WB2WPA - 147.030 MHz (+600)

Club Chat Node:

CHAT – 144.970 MHz

ENAP Packet Node

WB2WPA-5 - 145.030 MHz

Club Home Page:

**<http://naplesfl.net/~araswf> or
<http://naples.net/clubs/amradio>**

Club Officers/ Chairmen:

President – KE4JZT - A.D.

e-mail – ke4jzt@aol.com

Vice President – NJ2F - Jeff

e-mail – NJ2F@aol.com

Secretary/Treasurer – K2ZEL, Bill

e-mail – nfn06232@naples.net

Past President – AD4TR, Martin

e-mail – ad4tr@aol.com

Repeater Trustee – WA1QDP - Mark

e-mail—wa1qdp@aol.com

Club Chat Node – N4VMT – Phil

e-mail – n4vmt@aol.com

Newsletter Editor – K2ZEL – Bill

e-mail – nfn06232@naples.net

Training Committee – AD4TR

Webmaster - KE4KTZ - Glenn

e-mail - ke4ktz@amsat.org

Dinner Meeting Chairman - W2JQ, Sigi

e-mail - w2jq@peganet.com

Awards Manager - KD4VRZ, Gary

e-mail - grandall@arrrl.net

Ham Fest Season Starte

Each fall the hamfest season begins
for the state of Florida. Notices have
been received for the following

9/29/01—Daytona Beach

10/13/01—Starke

11/10/01—Port St. Lucie

**Next Meeting at the
Church
Sept. 25 @ 7:30 p.m.**