



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. XVIII No. 11

November 2002

The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

From the President:

Here it is, another year almost gone. Its hard to believe that its been two years that I have held the office of President for the Club. It has been a pleasure for me and lots of fun, and I hope it has been the same for all of you too. I would like to say thanks to those that have served as officers with me; Jordan, Bill, Jeff... I hope everyone will give the same support to the new officers that I have received, and I wish the new officers the best of luck for the coming year. I hope that we can keep our relationship with the Red Cross in the future, because I believe it will be good for the community and us. I hope to see many of you at the Christmas Dinner this year, it will be a fun time for those who come.

Thank You All !

73 - AD, K4ADR

Elections:

It's that time of the year again! Elections will take place at the November meeting. So far we officially have one nomination for each office, and additional nominations will be taken from the floor before balloting.

The following have been nominated for officers during the 2003 year -

KQ0Q - John Simander - President

WB2QLP - Jordan Mash – Vice President

K2ZEL - G. William Reynolds – Secretary/ Treasurer

See you there !

**NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 26, 2002
7:30 PM - RED CROSS CHAPTER HOUSE**

Minutes of the October Meeting

The October meeting of the ARASWF was called to order by the president, K4ADR, at 7:30 pm on 22 October 2002 at the Red Cross Chapter House. Following introductions of the members and guests present, the minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given. There is \$1440.57 in the treasury and all current bills have been paid. The report was approved by the membership present.

Under old business there was a discussion of the pending projects. The replacement of the antenna and coax at the repeater and the replacement of the coax at the Red Cross are to be scheduled by WB2QLP. There was additional discussion regarding the repeater controller and auto patch. K4ADR will undertake research on a new controller. It was pointed out that the club needs a volunteer for the position of repeater trustee.

It was also noted that the club needed a copy of the current club license for display in the radio station at the Red Cross. This also brought up the question regarding the term of the present club license.

Under New Business the club secretary is to prepare a letter of thanks for the contribution of the five computer units for the club to use during club activities. These were donated from the Naples Daily News through member K1PJ. The club needs a person to act as point of contact with the Red Cross to assist with the needs of communications response during emergencies both local and national.

An item for discussion at a later meeting is the possibility of changing the term of office for the officers and the separation of the secretary/ treasurer position.

A discussion of IRLP was led by Alan, KF4OXE.

There was a short discussion of the club web page. There are a number of members that need the official badges from the Red Cross. A list needs to be prepared and an appropriate time arranged for the pictures needed for the badges. During an emergency incident these badges will be required for admittance to the emergency area.

The following have been nominated for officers during the 2003 year:

KQ0Q, John Simander - President

WB2QLP, Jordan Mash – Vice President

K2ZEL, G. William Reynolds – Secretary/ Treasurer

Elections will be held during the November meeting. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the balloting.

The 50-50 drawing was won by KF4OXE. The kitty had \$28.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted

G. Wm. Reynolds, K2ZEL

Secretary/ Treasurer

IRLP INFORMATION PAGE

The Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) was started in 1997 as an attempt to use the internet to link radio systems across Canada. The project has been very successful and now there are hundreds of links (nodes) all over the world. (At last count = 690).

Basically, the system uses the internet to connect between nodes. Typically a repeater is connected to the system using a computer equipped with a sound card, IRLP interface board, and network card with internet connection.

There are also nodes called Reflectors, which are like hubs that allow several repeaters to connect to it at the same time.

You can find out more about the IRLP and get a complete list of active nodes by visiting their web site at **www.irlp.net**

Each node has a 4 digit ID number. Example: 9200 = Indianapolis Reflector

Local Access:

Here in Naples, the IRLP can be accessed via the 147.03 MHz Repeater, or the 443.70 MHz Repeater using a transceiver with a touch tone pad.

How to use the IRLP:

1. Activate the system by keying the mike, identify, and press *
2. Connect to a node by keying mike and entering **7** plus the node number.
For example to connect to the Indianapolis Reflector -

Hold PTT + Press **7 9 2 0 0**

You will hear a confirmation message when you're connected. Also, the morse letter **I** will be added to the squelch tail on the repeater.

3. Listen to see if there is any activity before calling.
Wait a couple of seconds after keying mike before talking to allow for all the relay circuits to kick in, otherwise the first word or so may be missed.

4. To terminate the node connection: Hold PTT + Press **7 7 3**

5. Disconnect local IRLP system: Hold PTT + Press **#**

(Note: If you don't do this step, it will eventually automatically time out.)

The use of the [*], [7], and [#] keys are unique to Naples and should not be given out over the air while connected to a node on the IRLP. The 4 digit "node numbers" and 73 "disconnect numbers" are common to all nodes.

Thanks to Alan KF4OXE for his presentation at the last meeting regarding the use of the IRLP.

Red Cross Chapter appoints Communications Chair

Pete Jordan – K1PJ has been appointed Communications Chair for the Collier County Chapter of The American Red Cross. Responsibilities include the organizing and overseeing of all communications, including land telephones, cell phones, radios, and computers. This was an opportunity for a member of the ARASWF to step up to the plate and start the ball rolling toward a closer relationship and liaison with the Red Cross Chapter, and to form a communications plan that will mesh with existing networks such as the Collier County ARES/RACES EOC program. We have talked about this for quite a while. Recent events such as the Tornados in Tennessee have shown us that the sophisticated technology that we take for granted such as cell phones and trunked radio systems are among the first to fail in these situations. Amateur Radio and its volunteers continue to prove themselves as a much needed and crucial communications link in times of disaster. Here in Collier County we certainly are at risk for disasters such as hurricanes and wild fires. We must continue our efforts to improve our preparedness and attempt to expand the pool of available personnel to call upon in times of need. Since the restructuring of the amateur radio license requirements, it's easier to become a ham operator. With thought and planning we can hopefully find ways to attract more interest. Also, there are personnel already in the field who could easily become licensed, and add amateur radio to their available tools of the trade so to speak. We have heard many good ideas and suggestions, and hopefully they can be investigated and pursued. We'll keep you updated on the progress.

Antennas fall off tower !

On November 6th the antennas fell off the tower at the K4YHB club station at the American Red Cross building. Some windy WX was moving through the area at the time. As near as we can tell, the bolts on the bottom of the rotor were loosening up over a period of time and eventually fell out. The rotor, mast, and antennas toppled off, then hung up on the VHF Quad and coax. They were initially lashed to the tower with a couple of bungee cords to prevent them from falling to the ground. Later the antennas were lowered and removed for inspection and repair. Some observations prior to the incident indicated that the mast seemed to be leaning slightly, but the cause was not known.

Right now, the Red Cross 47 MHz Ringo has been placed on top of the tower, and the HF Tribander, VHF Quad and Rotor have been removed. Therefore, the club station is temporarily off the air. When repairs have been made, a crew will reinstall the antenna system and replace the coaxial feed line.

NEW ANTENNAS



Hello from KG4QPD! The tower finally went up with the SKYMASTER II Quad and the Yellow Jacket 2m/440 antennas.
With the help of a few people (you know who you are) it went up October 31, 2002.
Made contact on 6 Meters with HC2FG in Ecuador.
This Ham business is Great !!!!!
73 - Mark



George - N3ISH recently put up a new Mini-Beam at the QTH. George and XYL Mary can be found on the county hunters net on 14.336 MHz. Good Luck!

Upcoming Hamfests / Flea Markets:

Okeechobee ARC

November 30, 2002

Okeechobee, FL

<http://flweather.com/oarc>

Contact: Chuck Phillips– KE4EUW at 863-610-0427 or Email: ke4euw@yahoo.com

Tampa Bay Hamfest / 2002 State Convention

December 7 & 8, 2002

The Manatee Civic Center - Palmetto, FL

(intersection of US 301 and Haben Blvd, north of Bradenton)

Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council

Email: info@fgcarc.org

Fort Myers ARC

January 11, 2002

Fort Myers, FL

Contact: Earl Spencer– K4FQU

Phone: 941-332-1503, FAX: 941-334-9362

Email: k4fqu@juno.com

Florida State Convention (“Tropical Hamboree 2003”)

February 1 - 2, 2003

Miami, FL

Dade Radio Club of Miami

<http://www.hamboree.org>

Contact: John Hall - WD4SFG

Phone: 305-226-5346

Email: wd4sfg@bellsouth.net

**DON'T FORGET OUR CLUB NET - WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
7:30 PM - 146.64 MHZ. REPEATER**

Club Information

Meeting Time:

4th Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.
Red Cross Chapter House
Northbrooke Plaza Dr., Naples FL

Club Repeater:

K4YHB—146.670 (-600)

EOC Repeater:

WB2WPA— 147.030 (+600)

Digital

K4YHB—145.070

CHAT—144.970

Club Home Page

<http://naples.net/clubs/amradio>

Club Officers/ Chairmen

President— K4ADR— A.D.

k4adr@swfla.rr.com

Vice President— WB2QLP— Jordan

wb2qlp@aol.com

Sec/Treas— K2ZEL— Bill

wreynolds39@comcast.net

Past President— AD4TR— Martin

ad4tr@aol.com

Repeater Trustee— WA1QDP— Mark

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Newsletter - K1PJ

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Webmaster— KE4KTZ— Glenn

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Social Chair— W2JQ— Sigi

w2jq@peganet.com

Awards Mgr,- KD4VRZ— Gary

kd4vrz@arrl.org

Public Relations— K1PJ— Pete

k1pj@aol.com

Field Day— KQ0Q— John

kq0q@comcast.com

FOR SALE:

Kenwood TS830 HF Transceiver
With Fox Tango Filters, manual, and
Service Manual. Make Offer.

Call Dick W0MIA - 261-8537

FOR SALE:

Yaesu FT101EE HF Transceiver - 200W
Recently tested - Works FB. \$150.00

Yaesu FRG7700 Receiver - \$100.00

Dale Langford 353-4701

For Sale:

Kenwood TR7950 2M - FM Transceiver
45W / 5W Output, 21 Memories, scans.
NPC 13.6 VDC @ 12 A Power Supply

Make Offer. K1PJ - Pete 216-2021

Contact Us:

If you have info, articles, announcements,
for sale items, etc.

You can email me at: k1pj@aol.com

Or you can snail mail me at:

Pete Jordan - K1PJ

1480 24th Avenue NE

Naples, FL 34120-5405

I can be reached by phone or FAX.

Home: 352-0977

FAX: 352-3104

Cell: 216-2021

Work: 435-3432

If you don't get a live body, I have voice
mail on all phone lines.

73— Pete K1PJ