



ARASWF

NEWSLETTER



Vol. XXI No. 5

The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

May 2005

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)

Club Home Page

<http://www.araswf.org>

Club Officers/ Chairmen

President: KB4ETT

Corey Mugas

Vice President: KI4AI

Carl Pacini

Secretary: KG4ZLB

David Worboys

Treasurer: K2ZEL

Bill Reynolds

Past President: WB2QLP

Jordan Mash

Technical Director: WA9ZIF

Carl Foust

Ops. Director: KI4DBI

Rodney Smith

Public Info. Officer: KI4HQP

Elio Hernandez

Awards Manager: KD4VRZ

Gary Randall

VE Liaison: AA4RX

Howard Roux

Newsletter: WD8RFL

Mike Welsh

Webmaster: KI4AIM

Rik Conklin

Social Chair: W2JQ

Sigi Boernet

From the Presidents Shack:

Hello to all. It is hard to believe that it is already May, the weather is certainly warming up and most of Naples' winter visitors have left for the summer. I have found propagation on HF to be sporadic (to be expected with our place in the solar cycle), but I and others have managed to make some great DX contacts. Now, DX hunting really is hunting, but fun. Also, look for 6 meter activity to pick up.

On May 7, a work party toiled all day to perform some repairs on the club tower and antennas. The rotor was changed out, the HF beam element spacing was verified, a newly donated 6 meter beam was added, the mast was lengthened to provide room for the additional antenna, the Red Cross antenna was repaired, and the tower was raised back into position. (no small task!!)

All the work was put to the test with a few QSO's using our new 746 PRO. Several contacts were made on the HF bands, 6 meters, and 2 meters. We even had an opening on 10 meters into California. Rodney Smith, KI4DBI started a small pile-up on 10 meters, I think the HF bug has bitten him.

Thanks to all those who donated their time, antenna, supplies, and sweat!!

The club has received approval to install the repeater at our new site in Pelican Bay!! I plan to organize a work party for the repeater installation in another week or two. Again, thank you to everyone involved in finding the new site, and working with the building management so the club can provide 2 meter repeater service, and those

involved in repairing and tweaking the repeater.

Several club members are traveling to the Dayton Hamfest. No doubt, those who can not go will be glad to hear about their trip and the events at the Hamfest.

Our next club meeting will include discussion of our plans for Field Day held in June.

73,

Capt. Corey Mugaas, KB4ETT
President ARASWF

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting:

Submitted by Carl Pacini, KI4All

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Meeting of April 26, 2005

President Mugaas called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. Those in attendance include:

Corey Mugaas, KB4ETT, President
Carl Pacini, KI4All, Vice President
Rodney Smith, KI4DBI, Operations Director
Carl Foust, WA9ZIF, Technical Director
William Reynolds, K2ZEL, Treasurer
Jordan Mash, WB2QLP, Past President

Apologies: David Worboys, KG4ZLB, Secretary

Meeting Notes

The Board discussed the upcoming air crash simulation on May 5 at the Naples Airport. Six volunteers are needed from 10 AM to 2 PM. Communications will occur on either 146.640 or 146.580 simplex. Corey Mugaas noted that a sufficient number of volunteers from the club were available.

The Board noted that Field Day 2005 will be on June 25, Saturday. It will be held at the Red Cross property on Northbrooke Drive. Field Day will be discussed at the April club meeting. Rodney Smith, Operations Director, will oversee the logistics of Field Day. It was mentioned that the club logging program needs to be updated. Bill Reynolds, K2ZEL, has the master copy of the software.

Rodney Smith discussed the fact that a triathlon will be held in downtown Naples on June 5. There may be a need for some communicators. He stated that he would obtain more information and report back to the Board on this matter.

The ISS Site Operations Committee is scheduled to meet Sharon Lea and Principal Dave Stump at Pine Ridge Middle School on Wednesday, April 27 at 3:45 pm. Those scheduled to be in attendance are Jordan Mash, Doug Dunfee, Gary Randall, and Carl Pacini.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Minutes from the Club Meeting:

Submitted by Carl Pacini, KI4All

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida, Inc.
Club Meeting Minutes for April 26, 2005

President Corey Mugaas called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. All members present introduced themselves by name and call sign.

Bill Reynolds, K2ZEL, delivered the treasurer's report:

Balance at start of period	\$4640.35
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Income this period

Dues	\$25.00
50-50	39.00

Total Income	64.00
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Total Funds this period	4704.35
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Disbursements this period

Icom 746 Pro	\$1549.95
Bank Fee	6.00

Total Disbursements	1555.95
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Balance at end of period	3148.40
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The membership discussed the air crash simulation scheduled for May 5 at the Naples Airport. It will be from 10 AM to 2 PM and lunch is provided for volunteers. Rodney Smith, Operations Director, went over various aspects of the event and went down the list of club volunteers.

Rodney Smith, Operations Director, also summarized the upcoming triathlon scheduled for June 5. He asked for volunteer communicators from the club membership.

Rodney Smith, Operations Director, also pointed out the need for volunteer communicators during hurricane season. He passed around a list for members to sign up as communicators. Numerous club members signed the list providing phone numbers and email addresses.

Rodney Smith, Operations Director, also discussed Field Day on Saturday, June 25. He covered the logistics necessary to arrange radios, antennas, computers, etc. at the Red Cross. Volunteers will be asked to sign up at the may meeting. Bill Reynolds, Treasurer, mentioned the need for volunteer instructors to teach a ham radio class during the summer months. Dates are not yet set.

Jordan Mash, Past President, discussed the need for volunteers to assist in erecting a 6-meter antenna on the club tower and making some repairs due to hurricane damage on May 7, Saturday. The repair work will commence at 9 AM. The repair work is necessary for Field Day and hurricane readiness.

Peter Gaddy provided an update of club negotiations with the Marbaya Club on installation of the 146.670 repeater. We are awaiting a vote by both the Pelican Bay Foundation and Pelican Bay Association. Dan, WB7ECV, reviewed all the work that has been done on the repeater to insure adequate performance once it is installed.

Carl Pacini, Vice President, reminded the club members that Charles Fueschel, former Director of Space Communications and Technology, NASA, will be the guest speaker at the May club meeting. His topic will be how NASA communicates with space vehicles. Various members asked if Dr. Chalmers Sechrist could again be a guest speaker. Carl Pacini responded that he had spoken to Dr. Chalmers about another presentation to the club. Dr. Sechrist indicated that he would speak later this year probably on the topic of D-layer absorption.

There being no further business, George, N3ISH, make a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by R.L. Caron, K4GP.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Pacini, KI4AII, Vice President

Notes From The Treasurer:

Submitted by Bill Reynolds, K2ZEL

There are three new members in the club.

Paul Cardella, KI4JON
Ted Bissell, KI4JUG
George Kelly, WA2SQQ

And one renewal

R. L. Caron, K4GP

The Hurricane Conference and Amateur Emergency Communications

During the first week in May the annual Governor's "Hurricane Conference" was held in Tampa. From the conference there are a number of implications for AmEmComm (Amateur Emergency Communications defined as ARES, RACES, ACS, AEC, MARS, CAP, etc) and their future participation in disaster emergency management.

It is clear that AmEmComm are a part of the team Not suggestive but directed. The EM community is openly urged to include AmEmComm in related planning. The AmEmComm are also to make themselves available to EM for integration and proper planning, BEFORE, and it hoped not in the midst a disaster event mess.

The Federal Mandate (Presidential Executive Orders as well as Legislation) REQUIRE all in the disaster response game be trained in NIMS/ICS. This means all.

AmEmComm HAVE to be trained (everyone) in EmComms (ala FEMA and ARRL AECC courses). This is necessary to assure that all are on the same sheet of words allowing the smooth meshing of services to the EM community including the coordinated concept of operations. Gone are the days of "the way we do it here is", now we are to do it the same way!!!!

For further comment and discussion BE AT THE MAY CLUB MEETING !

Bill, K2ZEL

Notes from our Vice President:

Submitted by Carl Pacini, KI4AI

A reminder that Charles Fueschel, Former Director of Space Communications and Technology, NASA, will be the guest speaker at May's club meeting. His topic is communicating with space vehicles. It should be a fascinating and informative presentation. We hope to see all club members present at the meeting.

73, Carl, KI4AI

Pictures from the Disaster Drill, 05 May 2005:
Submitted by Elio Hernandez, KI4HQP - Public Information Officer



***Pictures from Work Party, 07 May, 2005:
Submitted by Jack Cane, KI4HQQ***



~ Of General Interest to All ~

Work Party Report, by Jordan Mash, WB2QLP:

SAFE, Successful Work Party

On Saturday, May 7, 2005, well over a dozen club members met at the Red Cross HQ. to perform some long needed maintenance and upgrades to the club station's tower and antenna system.

Once the tower was laid over in the rear parking lot, the 'crew' split into different groups to begin work on numerous tasks.

The wall bracket cradling the tower was bent last summer when the high winds of Hurricane Charlie passed by. It needed to be replaced with the new one that was recently purchased. While the tower was down, the 'crew' re-measured the element spacing on the TA-33 beam and confirmed it was properly set. Also, a new 6 meter beam, donated by NSOI, was installed on the mast (at about 42ft.level), so we now have 6 meter capability with the new Icom IC-746 Pro Xcvr in the shack. The old rotor was removed and replaced by an HD-73 rotor, donated by W2JQ, and we now have directional control readout in the shack, too. Also 8 ft. of aluminum tubing was added to strengthen the existing mast. Dan, WB7ECV and Rodney, KI4DBI, removed and repaired the Red Cross ringo antenna, and it was placed at the top of the mast.

After a long day in the HOT sunshine, all of the antennas were properly aligned, rechecked, and the tower was then lifted back to the vertical position.

It now stands tall and proud and working well, ready for rag chewing, DXing, contesting and Field Day. Let's all put it to good use.....

All in all, it was a SAFE, SUCCESSFUL and FUN Day..... Everyone who attended had a good time

THANKS TO THE ENTIRE CREW.

Introduction to Propagation

Also from Jordan...

Here is a link to an interesting article on Propagation, by Glenn Hauser.

[Introduction to Propagation](#)

Editor's Note:

Thanks to all that submitted material for the newsletter. See you at the next meeting!
73's ~Mike, WD8RFL

Visit our Club Web Site at: www.araswf.org

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY - May 24, 2005
7:30 PM - RED CROSS CHAPTER HOUSE