



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. XXII No.12 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida December 2006

Club Information

Meeting Time: 4th Tuesday
at 7:30 p.m. Golden Gate
Community Center
4701 Golden Gate Parkway
Naples FL

Club Repeater: K4YHB
146.670 (-600) PL 136.5

EOC Repeater:
WB2WPA 147.030 (+600)

Club Web Site:

<http://www.araswf.org>

Club Officers/ Chairpersons

President: KK4PG

Peter Gaddy

Vice President: KI4AI

Carl Pacini

Secretary: W2HI

Bob Graf

Treasurer: K2ZEL

Bill Reynolds

Past President: KB4ETT

Corey Mugaas

Technical Director: WB2QLP

Jordan Mash

Emergency Comm. Dir:

N1DL, Karl Geng

Ops. Director: KI4DBI

Rodney Smith

Public Info. Officer: KI4HQP

Elio Hernandez

Awards Manager: KD4VRZ

Gary Randall

VE Liaison: AI4CZ

Carolyn Conklin

Newsletter: WD8RFL

Mike Welsh

Webmaster: KI4HEY

Eric Rice

Social Chair: W2JQ

Sigi Boernet

From the President's Shack:

After two years the tower is finally complete, a 2 meter/440 vertical, 12 element 2 meter yagi, 13b2, 4 element 6 meter beam, and Mosley TA-53. Thanks to the many fellow club members who helped bring the project to completion.

Peter
KK4PG



Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Monthly Business Meeting held at the Golden Gate Community Center, Golden Gate, Florida, on Tuesday, November 28th, 2006.

Present: Peter Gady, KK4PG - President
Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL - Treasurer
Jordan Marsh, WB2QLP - Co-Technical Director

Apologies: Carl Pacini, KI4AI - Vice President
Tim Wallen, KC4SSD - Co-Technical Director
Rodney Smith, KI4DBI - Operations Director
Corey Mugaas, KB4ETT - Past President

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order:

There being a quorum present with 24 members including 4 directors in attendance, Peter, KK4PG (President) called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Introductions:

All attendees introduced themselves by name and call for the benefit of the members and guests in attendance.

Reading & Approval of Previous Minutes:

On a motion by George, N3ISH, and duly seconded, acceptance of the minutes of the October meeting as published in the ARASWF Newsletter was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill, K2ZEL, reported verbally that there are no changes in the Treasurer's Report since the previous month's report, except that \$25. was received from Dick, N1DO, for 2007 membership. Thus, a formal Treasurer's Report was dispensed with for this month.

Officers' Reports:

Christmas Dinner / December Meeting: Peter, KK4PG, reminded the membership that the annual Christmas dinner/December business meeting will be held on Friday, December 8th, at 6:00 PM, Site is the same as last year – Perkins Restaurant on Pine Ridge Road just west of I-75.

Changes to ARASWF By-Laws: Peter, KK4PG, announced that the Board of Director's has decided to limit any changes to the club Bylaws at this time to a

change that allows for future email notification to the membership about proposed changes to the Bylaws, specifically via the ARASWF newsletter, in lieu of written notice mailed individually to each member. The wording of this proposed change to the Bylaws will be mailed to each member together with the 2007 dues renewal notice, in time for a subsequent vote by the membership at the January 23rd meeting.

Future Activities: KK4PG asked the membership to think about participation in a possible "Super Bowl party", and a possible return to Keewaydin Island in the Spring of 2007 for an expedition.

Election of Officers:

On a motion by Jordan, WB2QLP, and duly seconded, Peter, KK4PG, was unanimously re-elected to the office of President. On a motion by George, N3ISH, and duly seconded, Bob, W2HI, was unanimously elected to the office of Secretary. On a motion by Anthony, KB2SFA, and duly seconded, Bill, K2ZEL, was unanimously re-elected to the office of Treasurer. There were no nominations from the floor for the office of Vice President, and that office will be vacant until filled at a later date. (Current Vice President Carl, KI4AI, who was not present, previously offered his regrets that the pressures of his expanded responsibilities at his place of work prevented him from accepting re-election for 2007.)

Committee Reports:

VE Testing: Carolyn, AI4CZ, was not present, and in her absence Peter, KK4PG, announced that the next VE testing session is scheduled for the 4th Saturday in January, (January 27th). Hopefully the testing site will continue to be the Collier EOC training rooms on South Horseshoe Drive.

6-Meter AM Net: Jeff, NJ2F, reported that the 6-meter AM Net seems to be attracting 10-15 check-ins each Monday night at 7:30PM on 50.400 MHz, and he invited more members to participate. Vintage AM radios are not a requirement for checking into the net, but they are gaining in popularity – last Mondaynight 7 of the 12 check-ins were on vintage 6-meter AM radios.

Old Business:

Club Antenna Trailer: Jordan, WB2QLP, announced that a call will go out over the repeater sometime in January for volunteers to join a work party and begin the refurbishment of the club antenna trailer.

New Business:

Hamfests: Jordan, WB2QLP, reported on the activities at the Okeechobee hamfest, where over 500 persons attended.

Jordan also reported that Karl, N1DL, was away on an extended trip to South America and other places, and will be operating in the early morning (7:30 – 8:00 AM) on 14.347 MHz. Later in the day he might be found at 14.332 or 14.260 MHz. It was not immediately known exactly what call sign he will be using – he reportedly has some 14 different callsigns at his disposal.

Items Offered For Sale:

2-Meter Handi-talkies: AD, K4ADR, announced he has two 2-meter handi-talkies for sale, each with a handset. He is asking \$75. for a brand new one, and \$50. for a used one.

Rotator cable: Peter, KK4PG, announced that he has available 170 feet of heavy-duty, 8-wire, rotator cable for sale, and K4ADR immediately announced that he would buy it.

MFJ Antenna Analyzer: Bill, K2ZEL, announced that he would like to sell a MFJ249 Antenna Analyzer.

Parts Availability:

Bill, K2ZEL and Peter, KK4PG, announced that they each have extensive collections of spare parts that might be difficult to find elsewhere, and invited members in need to contact them.

Special Features:

Electric Radio Magazine: Peter, KK4PG, passed around old copies of Electric Radio, and offered them to the membership. He said he has many more, and will make them available to anyone who wants them.

50/50:

The 50/50 raffle was won by AD, K4ADR, who graciously donated his winnings back to the club treasury.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. on a motion made by K4ADR, seconded by N3ISH, and unanimously approved.

Bob Graf, W2HI
Secretary

Contributed by Allen Randolph, KI4IMA:

DO YOU JUST BELONG

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented, that your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings, and mingle with the crowd?
Or do you just stay at home, and crab both loud and long?
Do you take an active part, to help the club along?
Or are just satisfied to be, the kind to "JUST BELONG"?
Do you ever go visit, a member who is sick?
Or leave the work for just a few, and talk about the CLIQUE?
There is quite a program scheduled, that meets success if done.
And it can be accomplished, with the help from everyone.
So attend the meetings regularly, and help with hand and heart.
Don't be just a member, but take an active part.
Think this over, are we right or are we wrong?
ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER? OR DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Copied from the New Hampshire American Legionnaire - MAY/JUNE 1995

! IMPORTANT RECENT COMMUNICATION FROM ARRL !

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB030
ARLB030 FCC to Drop Morse Testing for All Amateur License Classes

ZCZC AG30
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 30 ARLB030
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT December 16, 2006
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB030
ARLB030 FCC to Drop Morse Testing for All Amateur License Classes

In an historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission today adopted a Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. In a break from typical practice, the FCC only issued a public notice at or about the close of business and not the actual Report and Order, so some details -- including the effective date of the R&O -- remain uncertain. The public notice is located at:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf

Also today, the FCC also adopted an Order on Reconsideration, in WT Docket 04-140 -- the "omnibus" proceeding -- agreeing to modify the Amateur Radio rules in response to an ARRL request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital

stations on 80 meters in the wake of rule changes that became effective today at 12:01 AM Eastern Time. The Commission said it will carve out the 3585 to 3600 kHz frequency segment for such operations. Prior to the long-awaited action on the Morse code issue, Amateur Radio applicants for General and higher class licenses had to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test to operate on HF. The Commission said today's R&O eliminates that requirement for General and Amateur Extra applicants.

"This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC said. The ARRL had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants only. The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision in today's R&O.

Perhaps more important, the FCC's action in WT Docket 05-235 appears to put all Technician licensees on an equal footing: Once the R&O goes into effect, holders of Technician class licenses will have equivalent HF privileges, whether or not they've passed the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse examination. The FCC said the R&O in the Morse code docket would eliminate a disparity in the operating privileges for the Technician and Technician Plus class licensees. Technician licensees without Element 1 credit (ie, Tech Plus licensees) currently have operating privileges on all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz.

"With today's elimination of the Morse code exam requirements, the FCC concluded that the disparity between the operating privileges of Technician Class licensees and Technician Plus Class licensees should not be retained," the FCC said in its public notice. "Therefore, the FCC, in today's action, afforded Technician and Technician Plus licensees identical operating privileges."

The wholesale elimination of a Morse code requirement for all license classes ends a longstanding national and international regulatory tradition in the requirements to gain access to Amateur Radio frequencies below 30 MHz. The first no-code license in the US was the Technician ticket, instituted in 1991. The question of whether or not to drop the Morse requirement altogether has been the subject of often-heated debate over the past several years, but the handwriting has been on the wall. A number of countries, including Canada, no longer require applicants for an Amateur Radio license to pass a Morse code test to gain HF operating privileges. The list has been increasing regularly.

The FCC said today's R&O in WT Docket 05-235 comports with revisions to the international Radio Regulations resulting from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). At that gathering, delegates agreed to authorize each country to determine whether or not to require that applicants demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to qualify for an Amateur Radio license with privileges on frequencies below 30 MHz.

Typically, the effective date of an FCC Order is 30 days after it appears in the Federal Register. That would mean the Morse requirement and the revised 80-meter segment

for automatically controlled digital stations would likely not go into effect until late January 2007.

The ARRL will provide any additional information on these important Part 97 rule revisions as it becomes available.

NNNN

/EX



Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year to All !

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

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

**NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY - JANUARY 23, 2007
7:30 PM - GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY CENTER**