



ARASWF

NEWSLETTER



Vol. XXII No. 2 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida February 2006

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: KK4PG
Peter Gaddy
Vice President: KI4AII
Carl Pacini
Secretary: KG4ZLB
David Worboys
Treasurer: K2ZEL
Bill Reynolds
Past President: KB4ETT
Corey Mugaas
Technical Director: WB2QLP
Jordan Mash
Ops. Director: KI4DBI
Rodney Smith
Public Info. Officer: KI4HQP
Elio Hernandez
Awards Manager: KD4VRZ
Gary Randall
VE Liaison: KG4ZLB
David Worboys
Newsletter: WD8RFL
Mike Welsh
Webmaster: KI4AIM
Rik Conklin
Social Chair: W2JQ
Sigi Boernet

From the President's Shack:

Congratulations to all those who participated in making the ISS contact a great success. It is very satisfying to have our first major project of the New Year completed without a hitch.

It is now on to new challenges. The first challenge will be to find a new location for club meetings and the club station. While several possibilities are being investigated please contact a member of the search committee (WB2QLP or W4IJR) if you have any suggestions.

At the next meeting on Tuesday February 28 we will have the final sign up for the Keywadin Island Dxpedition to be held on April 8, 2006.

73's
Peter
KK4PG

**SEE THE SPECIAL SECTION IN THIS NEWSLETTER
DEVOTED TO THE ISS CONTACT
STARTING ON PAGE 13**

An audio CD and a video DVD of the contact proceedings, will be available for members and others. Information on this will be presented at the next meeting.

Minutes from the January Meeting, David Worboys, KG4ZLB, Club Secretary:

Amateur Radio Association of South West Florida

Club meeting held at the Red Cross Building, Naples, FL on Tuesday January 24th, 2006.

In attendance:

Peter Gaddy, KK4PG - President
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL - Treasurer
Rodney Smith, KI4DBI - Operations Director
Jordan Mash, WB2QLP - Technical Director
David Worboys, KG4ZLB - Secretary
Carl Pacini, KI4AII - Vice President
Corey Mugaas, KB4ETT- President

Apologies:

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MEETING MINUTES

Peter, KK4PG (President) acted as Chairman of the meeting and there being a quorum present, called the meeting to order at 7.30pm.

Peter asked each attendee to introduce themselves by name and call sign and to make any positive or negative comment concerning the Club. A large turnout of members, prospective members and guests comprised the meeting turnout and many old faces were welcomed back.

Treasurers Report: – Bill, K2ZEL reported income of \$975 in 2006 Club dues plus a \$25 donation for the Tower fund. Additionally, sales of excess Club equipment had netted \$825 and the Club's account balance stood at a rather healthy \$1262.

Ham Aid: David, KG4ZLB advised the meeting that in accordance with the previously reported ARRL grant funding for Hurricane damaged emergency communications equipment, he had furnished a detailed report to ARRL Headquarters listing the damage sustained at the Red Cross to the Club's tower and antenna system. The damage total had been valued at \$2000 on a replacement cost basis. David said that he was happy to report that the ARRL had reviewed the application and had decided to award the Club the full valuation of \$2000. David further reported that a letter of acceptance of the grant money had been received, executed on behalf of the Club and returned to the ARRL and that funds should be in hand in approximately 10 days.

Peter, KK4PG reported that he had spoken to Debra Horbeth, Executive Director of the Naples Red Cross with regards to firming up the arrangements for a meeting room to be available throughout 2006. Debra had advised that the rooms were required seven days a week going forward and it was assumed that the Club were being asked to find alternative accommodation, although this was not actually stated. Peter stated that he had arranged a face to face meeting with Debra at 10.30am on Wednesday January 25th where direct questions about the Red Cross' intentions could be asked. JR and possible Fred, KF4MJJ would try to attend the meeting with Peter and a report of the outcome would be furnished to members as soon as possible. Peter had asked the Board at the last Directors Meeting, that a Committee be set up to look at potential new venues should we be asked to vacate the Red Cross building and Jordan and Peter were seconded to this. JR & George, N3ISH volunteered to join the committee.

Peter advised the meeting that he had requested the Board to incorporate a committee to review our emergency procedures and policies going forward and to possibly put together a written document with the Collier County EOC as to what is expected of the Club during an emergency activation. Bill, K2ZEL and Rodney, KI4DBI had agreed to head up the Committee. After discussion, Fred, KI4MJJ agreed to join the committee after stating that it was important to determine the viability of what we actually do at the moment!

Carl, KI4AII, advised that he had e-mailed the proposed Club byelaws to the Board and that at the recent Board meeting there had been a lengthy discussion concerning changes to these proposals. Carl had made the suggested changes and distributed the byelaws to the members with a request for everyone to carefully review them. At the February 2006 Club meeting, the Membership would be asked to vote on the byelaws. Carl advised that it was necessary for the Club to have byelaws as the legal status had changed and byelaws were now required.

Peter reported that Fred, KI4MJJ had passed to him a letter from Dan Summers at Collier County EOC, thanking various members for their work during the 2005 hurricane season. Enclosed with the letters were certificates of appreciation and these were given out to Jordan, Carl, KI4AII, Dan, Maurey and Corey.

Peter presented a Certificate of Life Membership to Jordan, WB2QLP in respect of his outstanding service to the Club over many years.

Rodney, KI4DBI reported to the Meeting that the Club had been well represented by 10 members at the recent Naples half-marathon. Some 1400 runners had taken part with the event starting at 7.00am. Rodney was pleased to confirm that the whole communications effort had been co-ordinated on 146.550 simplex.

Peter formally announced a plan for the Club to hold a day trip dxpedition to Key Waden which would be held, weather permitting, on April 8th 2006. Should the weather conspire against then this would be put back to a date in May. The cost for this would be in the region of \$20-\$40 per person to include transportation to and from, food and drink. A sign up sheet would be passed around for members to signify their interest. Deposits would be required at the February 2006 Club meeting.

Peter announced that he wished for a Club fundraiser to be held in the summer and he asked Sigi W2JQ Social Chairman to come up with some ideas that could be discussed at future meetings.

Peter reported that the proposed ISS School contact was still on hold pending further notification from ARISS/NASA. Jordan ran through the procedure of listening to the ISS and transmitting to the ISS should any members wish to try for an ISS QSO.

Jordan advised that he currently had orders for 8 club vests but needed a total of 12 orders before placing the order. Rodney, KI4DBI modelled his vest for members to see and Jordan asked that anyone who wished to place an order should see him.

Jordan also reported that the sales of club excess equipment and donated equipment had netted the Club some \$1100 and that some equipment was still available. Any items left would be taken up to the Orlando Hamfest in February, hopefully increasing the Club's coffers even further.

Further discussion threw up a request for the Club to organise a foxhunt and Peter promised to review this request and report back.

Carl, KI4AII, gave a short presentation on his recent trip to Curacao, more specifically to the side trip to the PJ2T contesting station in Curacao which his wife had let him do. Carl accompanied his

presentation with some pictures presented on a TV screen as well as some prints. Carl encouraged members who were interested to take a look at the PJ2T website at <http://www.pj2t.org> where many more pictures and narrative could be reviewed. Many thanks to Bill, K2ZEL for manning the computer which gave us all great shots of the station intermingled with pictures of Carl, his wife and friends, various statues – some of which were actually the right way up!

Carl, WA9ZIF, gave a short presentation of Echolink which he had set up through the 670 repeater and a vote of thanks was given to him for making this available to the Club.

50/50 Raffle: The 50/50 raffle was drawn by Jordan, WB2QLP and was won by Randy, W9ZR who donated his winnings to Club funds.

A motion to close the meeting was proposed by Allen, KI4IMA and seconded by Carl, KI4AII, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9.12pm.

David A. Worboys
KG4ZLB
Secretary

Club Member Receives Emergency Coordinator (EC) Designation for Collier County



Jeff Beals, WA4AW, Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) of the South Florida Section (SFL) of the ARRL, presenting Fred Edwards, KF4MJJ, his official certification as Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Collier County at the Ft. Myers Hamfest on Saturday, Jan 21, 2006

Concerning the Club Vests:

Jordan Mash, WB2QLP, is taking orders for the Club Vests. So far, he has nine firm orders, but needs twelve before he can place the order. Cost is estimated to be \$40-\$45, which includes the embroidered call sign on the back. Please contact Jordan soon, to order your vest.

Amateur Radio Web Site Hosted in SW Florida:

<http://www.SWFLHams.com>

"I would like to take this time to welcome you and thank you for joining SWFLHams.com. I've put this site together for the single purpose to bring everyone in Southwest Florida together online to exchange ideas, information, and just general conversation between one another. Please take a moment to look at a few things we currently offer on our site. Contribute: Anyone Registered User or not can post information on this site. The Reason for this is that information should be easily made available to our site to keep a current and well informed source of news, events, and other types of important submissions. Events: Got an event, submit one on our site so that everyone now knows where to look for the details on that event. There are always a lot of things going on that some people might not even have a clue about. This will provide information to those people making your event more of a success. Downloads: Everything these days is electronic and I wanted a method to provide files, either created or from another source to be in a central location for ease of use. Because the files themselves are cataloged into a database, we can find the file you looking for as quickly as possible. Forum: These things are great when it comes conversation starters. I've been to a lot of forums and they are full of information. I wanted to have a place where you can go and discuss anything online for all to see and comment. FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions, is another part of the site which offers a quick way of providing information to registered users and non-registered users. For Example I've put all the Repeater Information that I've gathered to provide a way to look these up. In closing, my dream is to get everyone on the same page by bringing together a community. Please forward and invite as many people as you can to this site. The more people we can online, the better this site will do to serve you. Thanks, KI4IKW (David L DeBres)"

Other Member News:

We were all sorry to hear that Bill Reynold's (K2ZEL) Mother passed away recently. Our condolences to Bill and his family.

John Simander (NS01) is recovering from prostate surgery. He is doing well and spending a great deal of time in front of the microphone. John wants everyone to know how important testing of PSA levels is. Please read his article in this newsletter.

Upcoming Contests, from Jordan Mash, WB2QLP:

February, 2006

Vermont QSO Party 0000Z, Feb 4 to 2400Z, Feb 5
YL-ISSB QSO Party 0000Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB 0001Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
YLRL YL-OM Contest, CW 1400Z, Feb 4 to 0200Z, Feb 6
Minnesota QSO Party 1400Z-2400Z, Feb 4
AGCW Straight Key Party 1600Z-1900Z, Feb 4
Delaware QSO Party 1700Z, Feb 4 to 0500Z, Feb 5 and
1300Z, Feb 5 to 0100Z, Feb 6
Mexico RTTY International Contest 1800Z, Feb 4 to 1759Z, Feb 5
North American Sprint, SSB 0000Z-0400Z, Feb 5
ARCI Winter Fireside SSB Sprint 2000Z-2400Z, Feb 6
ARS Spartan Sprint 0200Z-0400Z, Feb 7
KCJ Topband Contest 1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest 0000Z, Feb 11 to 2400Z, Feb 12
New Hampshire QSO Party 0001Z, Feb 11 to 0001Z, Feb 13
SARL Field Day Contest 1000Z, Feb 11 to 1000Z, Feb 12
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW 1100Z-1300Z, Feb 11
Dutch PACC Contest 1200Z, Feb 11 to 1200Z, Feb 12
YLRL YL-OM Contest, SSB 1400Z, Feb 11 to 0200Z, Feb 13
Louisiana QSO Party 1500Z, Feb 11 to 0300Z, Feb 12
OMISS QSO Party 1500Z, Feb 11 to 1459Z, Feb 12
FISTS Winter Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, Feb 11
British Columbia QSO Challenge 1800Z, Feb 11 to 1800Z, Feb 12
RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz Contest, CW 2100Z, Feb 11 to 0100Z, Feb 12
North American Sprint, CW 0000Z-0400Z, Feb 12
ARRL School Club Roundup 1300Z, Feb 13 to 2400Z, Feb 17
AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening 1900Z-2030Z, Feb 15
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Feb 18 to 2400Z, Feb 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0200Z-0400Z, Feb 20
Russian PSK WW Contest 2100Z, Feb 24 to 2100Z, Feb 25
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB 0000Z, Feb 25 to 2359Z, Feb 26
REF Contest, SSB 0600Z, Feb 25 to 1800Z, Feb 26
UBA DX Contest, CW 1300Z, Feb 25 to 1300Z, Feb 26
Mississippi QSO Party 1500Z, Feb 25 to 0300Z, Feb 26
CZEBRIS Contest 1600Z, Feb 25 to 2400Z, Feb 26
North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Feb 25 to 0600Z, Feb 26
High Speed Club CW Contest 0900Z-1100Z, Feb 26 and
1500Z-1700Z, Feb 26
North Carolina QSO Party 1700Z, Feb 26 to 0300Z, Feb 27
CQC Winter QSO Party 2200Z, Feb 26 to 0359Z, Feb 27

March, 2006

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Mar 4 to 2400Z, Mar 5
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint 0400Z-0429Z, Mar 4 and
0430Z-0459Z, Mar 4 and
0500Z-0529Z, Mar 4 and
0530Z-0600Z, Mar 4
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship 2200Z-2359Z, Mar 4 (Low Band) and
0000Z-0159Z, Mar 5 (Low Band) and
0800Z-1159Z, Mar 5 (High Band)
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z-1700Z, Mar 5
ARS Spartan Sprint 0200Z-0400Z, Mar 7
AGCW YL-CW Party 1900Z-2100Z, Mar 7
RSGB Commonwealth Contest 1000Z, Mar 11 to 1000Z, Mar 12
Idaho QSO Party 1300Z, Mar 11 to 0100Z, Mar 12 and
1300Z, Mar 12 to 0100Z, Mar 13
AGCW QRP Contest 1400Z-2000Z, Mar 11
Oklahoma QSO Party 1400Z, Mar 11 to 0200Z, Mar 12 and
1400Z-2000Z, Mar 12
North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 12
UBA Spring Contest, CW 0700Z-1100Z, Mar 12
NSARA Contest 1200Z-1600Z, Mar 12 and
1800Z-2200Z, Mar 12
Wisconsin QSO Party 1800Z, Mar 12 to 0100Z, Mar 13
SARL VHF/UHF Contest 1600Z, Mar 17 to 1600Z, Mar 18 and
1600Z, Mar 18 to 1000Z, Mar 19
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest 0001Z-2359Z, Mar 18
BARTG Spring RTTY Contest 0200Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 20
Russian DX Contest 1200Z, Mar 18 to 1200Z, Mar 19
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest 1600Z-1900Z, Mar 18 (144) and
1900Z-2100Z, Mar 18 (432)
CLARA and Family HF Contest 1700Z, Mar 18 to 1700Z, Mar 19
Virginia QSO Party 1800Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 20
UBA Spring Contest, 6m 0700Z-1100Z, Mar 19
9K 15-Meter Contest 1200Z-1600Z, Mar 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0200Z-0400Z, Mar 20
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Mar 25 to 2359Z, Mar 26
UBA Spring Contest, 2m 0600Z-1000Z, Mar 26
Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 27

April, 2006

Kids Roundup 1400Z, Apr 1 to 2200Z, Apr 2
SP DX Contest 1500Z, Apr 1 to 1500Z, Apr 2
EA RTTY Contest 1600Z, Apr 1 to 1600Z, Apr 2
QCWA Spring QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 1 to 1800Z, Apr 2
Missouri QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 1 to 0500Z, Apr 2 and
1800Z-2400Z, Apr 2
ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Apr 4
YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL Contest, CW 1400Z, Apr 4 to 0200Z, Apr 6
SARL 80m QSO Party 1700Z-2000Z, Apr 6
JIDX CW Contest 0700Z, Apr 8 to 1300Z, Apr 9
ARCI Spring QSO Party 1200Z, Apr 8 to 2400Z, Apr 9
EU Spring Sprint, SSB 1500Z-1859Z, Apr 8
Georgia QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 8 to 0359Z, Apr 9 and
1400Z-2359Z, Apr 9
Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest 2100Z, Apr 8 to 2100Z, Apr 9
UBA Spring Contest, SSB 0600Z-1000Z, Apr 9
SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest 1200Z-1400Z, Apr 9
YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL Contest, SSB 1400Z, Apr 11 to 0200Z, Apr 13
ES Open HF Championship 0500Z-0559Z, Apr 15 and
0600Z-0659Z, Apr 15 and
0700Z-0759Z, Apr 15 and
0800Z-0859Z, Apr 15
EU Spring Sprint, CW 1500Z-1859Z, Apr 15
Michigan QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 15 to 0400Z, Apr 16
EA-QRP CW Contest 1700Z-2000Z, Apr 15 (20-10m) and
2000Z-2300Z, Apr 15 (80m) and
0700Z-1000Z, Apr 16 (40m) and
1000Z-1300Z, Apr 16 (20-10m)
Ontario QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 15 to 1800Z, Apr 16
YU DX Contest 2100Z, Apr 15 to 0500Z, Apr 16 and
0900Z-1700Z, Apr 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Apr 17
Low Power Spring Sprint 1400Z-2000Z, Apr 17
DX Colombia International Contest 0000Z, Apr 22 to 2359Z, Apr 23
SP DX RTTY Contest 1200Z, Apr 22 to 1200Z, Apr 23
Florida QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 22 to 0159Z, Apr 23 and
1200Z-2159Z, Apr 23
Helvetia Contest 1300Z, Apr 29 to 1259Z, Apr 30

Congressional Record Remarks from February 8, 2006:

February 8, 2006 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD-Extensions of Remarks E105

A SALUTE TO HAM RADIO OPERATORS

HON. MIKE ROSS OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. ROSS.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of American citizens who are members of the Amateur Radio Relay League, known as HAM radio operators.

Citizens throughout America dedicated to this hobby—a hobby that some people consider old fashioned or obsolete—were true heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as they were often the only line of communication available into the storm ravaged areas.

Amateur radio operators are often overlooked in favor of flashier means of communication. As communities across the Gulf Coast and America learned this year, technology can be highly vulnerable. HAM radios, entirely self-contained transmitters, require no cell towers or satellites, simply a battery and a strip of wire as an antenna.

Just as after major earthquakes, tornadoes, and the terrorist attacks of 9/11, HAM operators around the country received an alert to stand by their radios to listen for calls for assistance. Following Hurricane Katrina, when cell phones and e-mail were useless, a HAM operator located in Connecticut alerted authorities about a woman trapped for 4 days without food or water and a Coast Guard Auxiliary in Cleveland arranged for a medevac for a woman in labor in New Orleans.

These are just a few examples of the many lives that were saved with the critical intervention of HAM operators throughout the country. Now more than ever, I am proud to be a licensed amateur radio operator. It is important to realize that every HAM radio operator in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a volunteer. This year, when disaster struck, hundreds of HAMS moved to the Gulf Coast to help in every way they could. Every one of which did so on a volunteer basis and their only goal was to assist in what became one of the worst natural disasters in America. The dedication displayed by HAM radio operators in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina sets a tremendous example for us all. The people whose lives were rescued as a result of the tireless dedication of HAM radio operators will forever be grateful to these selfless public servants.

(Allen Pitts, W1AGP, Media and Public Relations Manager, ARRL)

HAMFEST REPORT, from “JR” Smith, W4IJR:

(Notes on the recent Orlando “HamCation 2006” February 10-11-12, 2006 held at the Orlando Fairgrounds, Hosted by the Orlando Amateur Radio Club.)

Hamfest 06

Early Friday morning, N4IMJ and I set sail for Orlando’s Ham Cation, through the center of the state. Any Hamfest has two important ingredients, fellowship and lots of radios, to say the least. Orlando had both.

The greatest of “Haming” is the fellowship garnered through many years of contacts and working with local hams.

We arrived at the Orlando Fair Grounds about 1P.M. and immediately set out to “SHOP” for radios and what ever. “ GREAT”, lots of radios, tuners, wire, antennas, amps and junk. What is it “one mans junk is an others treasure”. The inside too was packed with dealers, AES, Kenwood, Icom and Yaesu. Two days of live looking and sometimes wishing for all one could take back to the shack. It all ended Saturday with a 5P.M. rain.

And for fellowship, Jeff , Anthony and family, AD and nephew, Don, Larry, Jordan, Peter, Carl, Randy, Sam, and Smity, just to name a few from Naples. The parking lot was filled and they were using the baseball field as an overflow.

My thoughts, it was a good one.

W4IJR

JR

Article of General Interest, from John Simander, NS0I:

By John Simander, NS0I

This has nothing to do with the ARASWF or HAM radio at all. As some of you have heard, I am at home recovering from surgery. In reality that should read, “resting from surgery”.

In August during my annual physical with my Naples doctor it was noted that my PSA number was above the magic 3.0. He said to schedule an appointment for 60 days from than for another blood draw. Well, I already had my annual appointment with the

Ft. Myers VA clinic coming up about 40 days from then. There my PSA number was also above 3.0. Well, now I had two doctors scheduling blood draws to recheck my PSA. The next VA draw was also higher so they scheduled an appointment with the VA urologist. He did the normal "finger wag" and found some irregularities. He scheduled a needle biopsy. I won't go into much about that except they take 12 core biopsies of the prostate. How and where they go to get those 1 cm length from I will let you imagine. The result was not good but not life threatening. Of the 12 samples 2 came back cancerous.

Next I was scheduled for a bone scan at Bay Pines (Tampa) and while there the scheduled me up there for a CT scan the next week. Fortunately, both tests showed that the cancer was present but had not left the prostate. At this point I went through several consultations. They gave me the (4) options but the VA only does one, the radical prostatectomy—complete removal of the prostate by box cutter. Now it was time to do some serious investigation. I asked for a consultation with the urologist at the Miami VA hospital. After that trip I decided to check on having the procedure done here in Naples. I decided to have the DaVinci robotic surgery.

I decided to have it done here in Naples. Fortunately, I was given all the lab reports—even the CT scan DVD to pass to the local doctor. I was setup for surgery on Monday January 30 at 7:00 A.M. I don't remember much about it except that I was in a room about 1:30 P.M. and had the normal post surgery
Jell-O with beef broth lunch—actually the same was for dinner at 4:30. There was some minor pain, but easily taken away by meds. The pain on a scale of 1-10 I had about 3 to 5 unmediated. On Tuesday the doctor came in about noon and asked when I wanted to go home. I jokingly said now and he said get dressed and said I was OK to go. I was home by 3 P.M. and sitting up watching TV. The only problem was that I had this 4 ft. catheter hose attached. I had an appointment to have the catheter removed and the staples removed on Tuesday February 7. Finally, the feeling of mobility was great.

The DaVinci procedure in on the net with a Google search. 5 incisions were made with a length of ½ in. There was another incision was made above the navel vertically about 1 ½ in. that the entire prostate was removed through. The doctor said that he had been able to bundle all the nerves and there should be no permanent effects. All of the incisions were covered by Band-Aids—no huge gauze cover-ups.

All of this will, I hope, get all of you guys over 50 to get a PSA blood test. My father had prostate cancer so I was already having the blood tests done on a regular basis. The blood test is easy—no fasting—and quick. So again, do some research on the net and then get the tests done and done regularly.

Submitted by David Worboys, KG4ZLB:

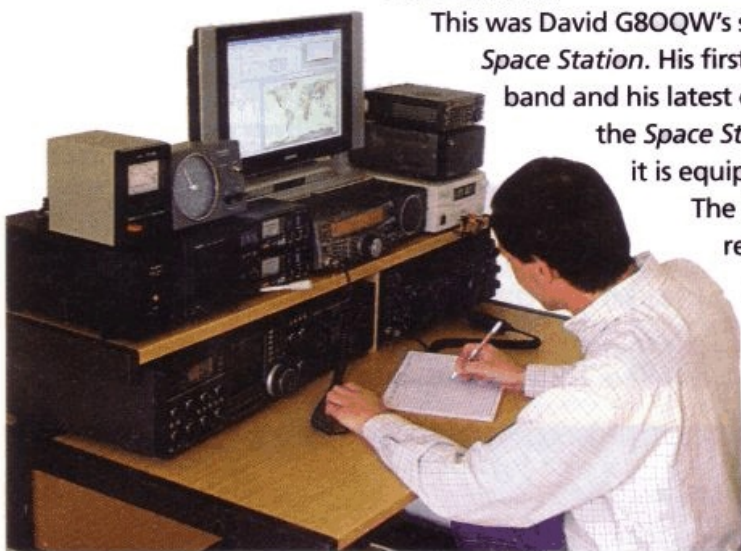
Space Station Contact

David Barber G8OQW made a 430MHz QSO with the *International Space Station* Commander **Bill McArthur KC5ACR** on Sunday 15 January thanks to the help of **Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society** (CARS) member **David Worboys M0ZLB/KG4ZLB**, who is currently in Florida. David M0ZLB/KG4ZLB heard Bill calling CQ from the *International Space Station* using the callsign **NA1SS** on 437.550MHz as it flew past Florida. He immediately sent an E-mail out on the Essex Amateur Radio Yahoo Reflector to alert people that the *Space Station* was active.

David G8OQW saw the E-mail and started calling NA1SS from the outset of visibility (prior to hearing it). The fact that all previous *ISS* passes that day were packet on 145.800MHz meant that no one else knew he would be on 437.550MHz so for a few vital seconds nobody else was calling the *Space Station* and David's call had a chance of being heard. When NA1SS replied to David G8OQW's call Bill said that he had heard his first call in the clear it was then swamped by all the other stations.

This was David G8OQW's second QSO with the *International Space Station*. His first was last November on the 144MHz band and his latest contact means he has now worked the *Space Station* on all the Amateur Bands that it is equipped for.

The Essex Amateur Radio E-mail reflector is open to all not just Essex Amateurs. To join just send a blank E-mail to: **EssexAmateurRadio-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk**



ISS Commander Bill McArthur KC5ACR

David G8OQW talking with Bill KC5ACR aboard the *International Space Station*.

SPECIAL REPORT

International Space Station (ISS) Contact by Pine Ridge Middle School
and ARASWF February 8, 2006



Contact Report, from David Worboys, KG4ZLB:

"November Alpha One Sierra Sierra, this is Kilo Four Yankee Hotel Baker" silence!

"November Alpha One Sierra Sierra, this is Kilo Four Yankee Hotel Baker" ... silence again!

"November Alpha One Sierra Sierra, this is Kilo Four Yankee Hotel Baker"

"Kilo Four Yankee Hotel Bravo, this is NA1SS"

At this point I finally started breathing again as Bill McArthur, current Commander of the International Space Station, returned the call and so began the 9 minutes and 45 seconds of rapid fire questions from students at Pine Ridge Middle and Immokalee Middle Schools assembled in the room.

It had been virtually a year since the club was approached by Sharon Lea of Pine Ridge Middle School with a view to facilitating the contact which, as both Schools were part of the NASA Explorer program, could be applied for.

At that time, even the application had not been completed and we were under the impression that it could be up to two years before a QSO would be scheduled with so many other Schools on the waiting list, ISS crew duties and reliable passes to be taken into consideration. But the Club swung into action, with Gary, KD4VRZ and Doug,

N4DMD taking over completion of the application and, as our most experienced satellite operators, chairing the operating committee between them.

Once the application had been sent in, thoughts turned to the venue and the logistics of setting up a portable station, with a complete back up at hand, in a large school. We were lucky enough to be invited to set up an operating station some months ago for a NASA evening with students and their parents, so we already had a pretty good idea of the layout of the school and Gary and Doug visited with the Principal and the Head of Maintenance to ascertain the best place for the antennas and the siting of the cable runs.

Just into December 2005, we were advised that we had a window of opportunity looming in a few days time so a work party attended at the school one Saturday morning and ran the cabling (coax and rotor), and assembled two multi-element 2m beams on the roof of the school complete with Gary's brand spanking new Yaesu AZ/EL rotor. A second set of cables for the back up antenna were also run, and radios and computer controlled rotor programs and satellite tracking were fired up and tested. 30 minutes after completion, on our way home, we received word that the contact was being scrubbed, the reason for which we were not given but a big disappointment anyway.

With the antennas and cabling in place, we just had to wait!

And then, on January 30, we got the message that we were good to go on February 8th with a 54 degree, 10.24 local pass.

So back we trundled to the School; some on the Saturday and Sunday beforehand and the rest on the Tuesday morning when everything was installed in the Schools media room, connections were made for the Nova satellite tracking program to be projected onto the large screen so that everyone could see where the ISS was at any given time. CCTV was employed giving every classroom in the school the opportunity to watch the contact live, and on the day, NASA webcasted the whole event!

Tuesday afternoon and everything was running well except for the NOVA program which had developed a glitch. Gary said that he would re-install the program overnight and we all agreed to meet at 8.00am on the following morning, coffee and donuts permitting!

Wednesday dawned bright and early (definitely too early for me anyway) and we reconvened at the School and tested every part of the system; everything was a "go".

At the time of the contact, we had some 70 students in the room, 10 or so teachers, Frank Halas the Collier County Commissioner and two news crews from the local stations and two or three print journalists, this felt more and more like a huge event.

Taylor, K4TKD opened the proceedings by calling for the ISS and Jessie, KI4HEU announced the loss of signal after the very last question, Jessie's last words, *"Godspeed Bill McArthur"*

were especially poignant and wild clapping and cheering erupted signalling the end of a very special event.

I think it is important to recognise two members who gave so freely of their time and their own equipment, in making this event happen, they are:

Gary – KD4VRZ

Doug – N4DMD

Not only did they give their time but they also acted as control operators throughout the QSO, and they never skipped a beat, well done Gary and Doug and thank you to everyone who gave of their time in ensuring that this thing happened!

Thanks everyone.

David

KG4ZLB

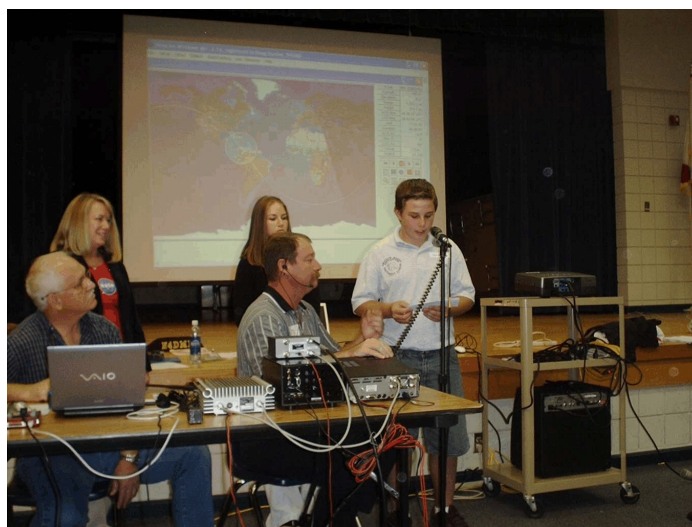
Secretary - ARASWF



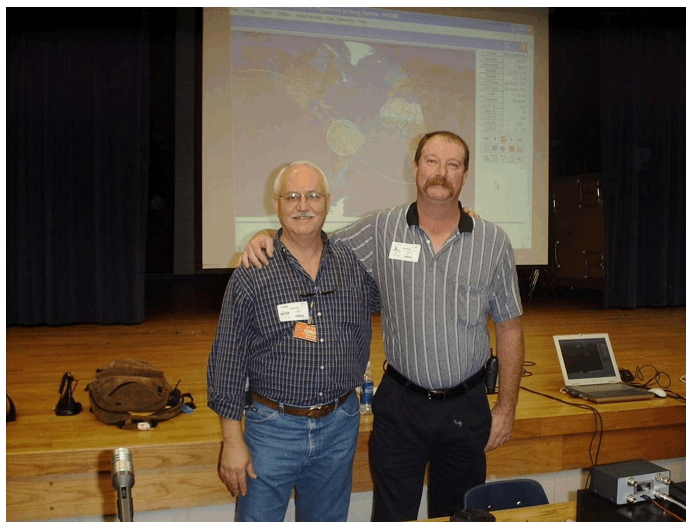
Taylor Dunfee, K4TKD - Making the Initial Contact with ISS
(Photo: Peter Gaddy)



(L-R) Gary Randall KD4VRZ, Jesse Wallen KI4HEU, Taylor Dunfee K4TKD , Doug Dunfee N4DMD, Sharon Lea
(Photo: Jordan Mash)



Jesse Wallen KI4HEU, at the microphone, closing the Contact
(Photo: Jordan Mash)



Gary Randall KD4VRZ & Doug Dunfee N4DMD - Who made it all happen!
(Photo: Jordan Mash)



The Antenna Array (Photo: Jack Cane)

For additional photos of the setup of the antenna, please visit Jack Cane's (KI4HQQ) web page: [Jack Cane's ISS Contact Page](#)

See also the Naples Daily News article: [NDN Article](#)
And an excellent photo from the NDN: [NDN Photo](#)

NASA - ARISS Information Release on the Contact:

Pine Ridge Middle School, Naples, FL, USA, Wed 2006-02-08 15:24 UTC 54 deg
successful (***)

Bill McArthur KC5ACR now holds the record for the most ARISS school contacts! (***)

Bill McArthur KC5ACR has been very active on 2m and 70cm. Congrats to all
who have made contact! Bill continues to shatter operating records.
Thanks Bill!

QSL information may be found at:
<http://www.arrl.org/ARISS/arissfaq.html>
<http://www.rac.ca/ariss/oindex.htm#QSL's>

The ARISS (a joint effort of AMSAT, the ARRL, NASA, the ARISS international partners including Canada, Russia, the European Partners, and Japan) operations team wishes to announce the following very tentative schedule for ARISS school contacts. This schedule is very fluid and may change at the last minute. Remember that amateur radio use on the ISS is considered secondary. Please check the various AMSAT and ARISS webpages for the latest announcements. Changes from the last announcement are noted with (***). Also, please check MSNBC.com for possible live retransmissions (<http://www.msnbc.com/m/lv/default.asp>). Listen for the ISS on the downlink of 145.80 MHz.

The crossband repeater has been active at times.
The frequencies are uplink of 437.80 MHz and downlink of 145.80 MHz.

For information about educational materials available from ISS partner space Agencies, please refer to links on the ARISS Frequently Asked Questions page.

If you are interested in supporting an ARISS contact, then you must fill in an application. The ARISS operations mentor team will not accept a direct request to support an ARISS contact; the application must first be sent to the ARISS region coordinator.

You should also note that many schools think that they can request a specific date and time. Once an application has been accepted the ARISS mentors will work with the school to determine a mutually agreeable date.

There are several ARISS web sites:

English: <http://www.rac.ca/ariss/>

French: <http://c.avmdti.free.fr/ariss/index.htm>

ARISS Europe: <http://www.ariss-eu.org/>

ARISS Japan: <http://www.jarl.or.jp/ariss/>

Your completely filled out application should be returned to the nearest coordinating ARISS region if your specific region is not listed. E-mail is the preferred method of submitting an application.

Here are the email addresses:

ARISS-Canada and all other countries not covered: ve2ka@rac.ca (Daniel Lamoureux VE2KA)

ARISS-Europe: jh.hahn@gmx.net (J. Hahn, DL3LUM / PA1MUC)

ARISS-Japan and all Region 3 countries: iaru-r3@jarl.or.jp (Keigo Komuro JA1KAB)

ARISS-Russia: n2www@attbi.com (Valerie Agabekov N2WW/UA6HZ)

ARISS-USA: ARISS@arrl.org (The American Radio Relay League)

QSL information may be found at:

<http://www.arrl.org/ARISS/arissfaq.html>

<http://www.rac.ca/ariss/oindex.htm#QSL's>

Other web sites that may be of interest include:

<http://www.arrl.org/sarex>

<http://www.arrl.org/ariss>

<http://www.amsat.org>

<http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov>

<http://spacelink.nasa.gov/index.html>

http://ehb2.gsfc.nasa.gov/edcats/educator_guide/

Latest ARISS announcements and news

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/news/arissnews.txt>

Successful school list

http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/news/Successful_ARISS_schools.rtf

The ISS Fan Club website is:

<http://www.issfanclub.com>

K1ELA has a website at:

<http://members.aol.com/k1ela/index.html>

ON6SAT has a website at:
<http://on6sat.com/links/>

IRLP website at:
<http://www.discoveryreflector.ca>
This new site will have the links for simulcast contacts that have IRLP and Echolink.

Friends and family of the Expedition 12 crew have put together a website:
<http://www.expedition12.com>

A listing of ARISS related magazine articles:
http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/news/ARISS_magazine_articles.rtf
Currently the list includes articles from CQ, CQ VHF, QST, and The AMSAT Journal.
Please contact me directly if you have additional suggestions.

Expedition 12 is now on board.

William McArthur KC5ACR
Valery Tokarev

To let you in on how tough it is to schedule contacts, here are some of the constraints the ARISS mentors must work under:
Each Increment is 26 weeks in length.

For the next increment (12) we may not schedule:

1. Anything the first 3 weeks.
2. During EVA weeks (2 EVAs are scheduled for Increment 12)
3. at least 2 weeks prior to the Increment change.
4. no contacts during meal and exercise periods.
5. no contacts during post-sleep and pre sleep (before 08:00 UTC and after 19:30 UTC)
6. contacts on the day of Progress docking or undocking are circumspect.

Mike Fincke KE5AIT and Gennady Padalka RN3DT produced a video during their stay on Expedition 9. You can get the QuickTime version (209MB) or the Windows Media version (152MB). These files are huge, so only a broadband connection is recommended. Thanks Mike and Gennady!

QuickTime:
<http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/Video/Expedition9Tour.mov>
Windows Media:
<http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/Video/Expedition9tourwmv.wmv>

A discussion on Doppler correction and the ISS frequencies may be found at

http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/news/ISS_frequencies_and_Doppler_correction.rtf

This file was updated 2005-07-29 04:00 UTC

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUDIO STREAMING THAT IS PROVIDED BY MCI.

1. Go to designated homepage URL.
2. Click on Audioconferencing.
3. Click on Audio Streaming.
4. Click on Join.
5. Enter conference meeting number.
6. Enter passcode (case sensitive) and there are 11 letters max.
7. Enter name.
8. Enter email address.
9. Enter company, use ARISS or AMSAT if you want.
10. Enter title (optional).
11. Agree to agreement policy.
12. Click proceed.
13. Wait for contact to start. If you are there too early, then you will probably hear music. Contact streaming should start approximately 6 minutes before AOS.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE USE OF IRLP AND ECHOLINK.

IRLP website at:

<http://www.discoveryreflector.ca>

If using IRLP is more convenient for you than using EchoLink, please connect to the IRLP reflector 9010.

Please give the EchoLink EDU_NET server your preference over the EchoLink AMSAT server for your connection. This will keep the load light on the AMSAT server, assuring us of better audio quality all around.

For latest information on ISS - school contact audio feeds into EchoLink, please check the AMSAT calendar of events at:

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/fieldops/events.php>

Pine Ridge Middle School, Naples, Florida, direct via K4YHB
Contact was successful: Wed 2006-02-08 15:24 UTC 54 deg (***)
Congratulations to Pine Ridge and Bill! (***)

Proposed questions for Pine Ridge Middle:

1. What is the newest type of robotics being used on the ISS today?
2. On a daily basis what robotics do you use aboard the ISS?
3. What would happen if a malfunction occurs in a robot? If it took a long time to fix,

would another robot be shipped to the station?

4. What is the largest robot aboard the ISS and what does it do?
5. What advice would you give a young person who is nervous or unsure on how to follow their dreams about becoming an astronaut?
6. How far from the ISS can a robotic arm extend?
7. What are robots doing on the ISS right now?
8. How much training does it take to prepare you to use the robotic arm?
9. Does the ISS ever get hit by space rocks?
10. How to you prevent your muscles from atrophy during your stay aboard the ISS?
11. How long does it take for our voices to reach the space station from earth?
12. How large will the ISS be when it is completed?
13. Is there a limit to personal items allowed on a spaceship? What types of things do most astronauts take?
14. In your opinion, do you think that man will ever have the technology to construct robots as depicted in Isaac Asimov's I Robot?
15. How do you decide what is your day versus your night aboard the ISS? How do you measure time?
16. Do you think that robots will ever be developed that have emotions or a conscience?
17. How many sets of garments do you have and how do you do laundry?
18. What do you do in your spare time?
19. What would happen if something occurred to the ISS? Do you have some kind of back-up that would come and get you?
20. Does the ISS have a self defense system which would destroy meteors or flying objects which would damage it?
21. Has the space station ever been damaged?
22. How long will it be until the ISS is completed?
23. What would you do if someone were seriously injured while working in space?
24. What section of the ISS will be added next?

At the February club meeting, the ARASWF will offer for AUCTION....

2 x 250 ft. rolls of LMR - 400 Coaxial cable..... (used once for ISS Contact) with PL-259 on each end

2 x 250 ft. rolls of 8 conductor rotor cable..... (used once for ISS Contact)

(Your chance to buy a piece of history!)

Other Amateur Radio/Space Related News:

For More Information:

Carl Zelic

407 977-5978

Aa4mi@arrl.net

For Immediate Release

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS TO COMMEMORATE THE 25TH SILVER ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SPACE SHUTTLE LAUNCH!

Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral, FL, February 13, 2006 -- Members of the Titusville (TARC) , North Brevard ARC and the Launch Information System and Amateur Television System (LISATS) will be hosting a week of Amateur Radio operating from April 9 thru 15 at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

Operators will make radio contact worldwide to celebrate the successful America's successful Space Shuttle program. Thru these contacts operators will increase the awareness and accomplishments of the many NASA men and women of space technology.

To commemorate this special event, a 25th Anniversary Certificate will be sent to each Radio operator worldwide if requested S.A.S.E.

The Federal Communications Commission has authorized a special call sign, N4S, (NASA for Space), for this occasion.

Operating information:

Dates and times: April 9 thru 15 at 1700Z-2400Z These times may expand as needed.

Frequencies (MHz.): 21.350 18.150 14.250 7.250.

Certificate: Carl Zelic, AA4MI, 1720 Old River Tr, Chuluota, FL 32766-8603.

"There is a lot going on in Amateur Radio today," says Zelic. "Some get involved in Amateur Radio to meet new friends or help their communities during times of disaster. Others enjoy the technical challenges, and the excitement of communicating with other licensed operators around the world."

Amateur Radio enthusiasts come from virtually every age and profession. Today there are nearly 700,000 Amateur Radio operators in the United States and more than 2.5 million worldwide.

Newsletter Editor Remarks:

Just a reminder to join in on the Wednesday Night 2M "Rag Chew" net on the Club Repeater. 146.670MHz (-) PL Tone 136.5. Net starts at 19:30 local time. (That's 7:30pm) Lasts about a half hour or so, and is a lot of fun. Open to all !

Starting with the next newsletter, I would like to include a picture or two, and brief description of a members "shack" each month. Please submit your picture(s), preferably jpg, and a brief narrative describing your rig(s) and antennas. Also, tell us anything unique about your station. Of course, please include your smiling mug, in the picture if possible, sitting at the "operation position". Text in notepad (ASCII) format please. Send to: WD8RFL@ARRL.NET

DEADLINES FOR ALL NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS IS THE 12th OF EACH MONTH

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

<p>NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY - FEBRUARY 28, 2006 7:30 PM - RED CROSS CHAPTER HOUSE</p>
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