



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. XXIII No. 5 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida May 2007

Club Information

Meeting Time: 4th Tuesday 7:30pm
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: None
Secretary: W2HI
Bob Graf
Treasurer: K2ZEL
Bill Reynolds
Past President: KK4PG
Peter Gaddy
Technical Director: WB2QLP
Jordan Mash
Emergency Comm. Director: N1DL
Karl Geng
Ops. Director: None
Public Information Officer: None
Special Events Coord.: KI4LUD
Bob Quinn
Awards Manager: KD4VRZ
Gary Randall
VE Laison: AI4CZ
Carolyn Conklin
Newsletter: WD8RFL
Mike Welsh
Webmaster: W2HI
Bob Graf
Social Chair: W2JQ
Sigi Boernet

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The Keywaydin Island Dxpediton by the ARASWF this summer, has been cancelled indefinitely.

Next club event will be providing radio communications for the Triathalon on June 3, 2007.

Field Day is June 23-24, 2007 at K9KNW, Joe Goggin's Ranch . (Same location as last year)

Minutes from the April 2007 Meeting:

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

**Regular Monthly Business Meeting held at the Golden Gate Community Center,
Golden Gate, Florida, on Tuesday, April 24th, 2007**

Present: Peter Gady, KK4PG - President
Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL – Treasurer
Jordan Marsh, WB2QLP – Technical Director
Karl Geng, N1DL – Emergency Operations Director

Apologies:

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order:

There being a quorum present with 31 members, including 5 directors, and 1 guest 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:

Reading of the Minutes was dispensed with since they were previously published in the ARASWF Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill, K2ZEL, gave the following Treasurer's Report:

Cash on hand, Previous Balance		\$6,084.28
Income:		
Member dues	\$ 75.00	
50/50 Proceeds from March	\$ 45.00	
Total income	\$120.00	
Available funds		\$6,204.28
Expenses:		
State Incorporation Annual Fee	\$ 70.00	
Total expenses	\$ 70.00	
Cash on hand 4/25/07		\$6134.28

Officers' Reports:

Upcoming events: Peter, KK4PG, announced that the DXpedition to Keewaydin Island had to be postponed because several key members were not available. He will meet with all members interested in setting an alternative date immediately after the meeting.

Peter also announced that Jeff's daughter Toby, KB2TJX, will be asking club members to volunteer to provide communications at next year's Golden Gate Festival to be held in April, 2008. Communications are needed between the cashier's location and the ticket booth, which are widely separated. Peter suggested that 9-10 volunteers could handle it easily if it is done in shifts.

Operation ComGapFill: Karl, N1DL, commented on the recent emergency communications exercise, Operation ComGapFill, which was held on Saturday, March 31, 2007, from 0900 to 1200 hours local time. The intent of the exercise was to demonstrate our ability to communicate both within and outside Collier County in the event of an emergency, and our capacity to pass messages was amply proven. Karl cautioned everyone to remember to slow down when passing messages, since some of those passed during the exercise were relayed too quickly to be accurately copied. Karl also said that a debriefing session will be held with Collier EOC on April 25th, at which time he will offer feedback, both positive and negative, about the exercise.

Finally, Karl indicated that some plans are being considered to hold joint meetings with the Collier ARES, perhaps on the same night as ARASWF membership meetings. This might stimulate membership in joining ARES, and to establish mutual goals and objectives. Fred, KF4MJJ, indicated that he would provide a brief discussion about message handling at such meetings.

Jordan, WB2QLP, suggested that message handling practice be considered after the Wednesday night every month or so.

Committee Reports:

VE Testing: In Carolyn's absence, Peter, KK4PG, gave the results of the recent VE testing session held earlier this month – 6 applicants were tested, and 4 successfully upgraded. After some discussion it was agreed to set future testing dates on a quarterly basis, avoiding June and December. W2HI suggested February, May, August and November as the months to hold test sessions, and this was unanimously approved by the membership on a motion made by George, N3ISH, and duly seconded.

Old Business:

New Repeater Antenna: Peter, KK4PG, announced that a new DB222E antenna has been ordered through Jerry Clark, KI4UAS, at a cost of \$252. It is anticipated that it will arrive in about 3-4 weeks.

Naples Triathlon: Bob, KI4LUD, reminded the membership that he still needs 3-4 volunteers to assist with communications at the upcoming Naples Triathlon to be held on June 3rd, and passed around a sign-up sheet.

Antenna Trailer: Peter, KK4PG, announced that the club antenna trailer now has new springs, tires, wheels and tow bar, and that some work remains to be done, namely to hook up the electrical wiring and work on the wood decking. He will be looking for volunteers to complete this work, and will make an announcement on the Wednesday night net about the date and time.

New Business:

Field Day: Joe Goggin, K9KNW, officially invited the club to again use his property in East Naples as the 2007 Field Day site. He also suggested that his emergency generator be used to provide power, instead of using the available AC power that was used last year. At Joe's request, Peter, KK4PG, asked for a volunteer to be Chairman for the 2007 Field Day, and Jordan, WB2QLP, immediately jumped to his feet and agreed to take on that responsibility. George, N3ISH, announced that he would assist Jordan.

Q&A Session: Jordan, WB2QLP, suggested that a Question & Answer session be held at the monthly membership meetings, so new and experienced hams alike can pose questions to membership. This idea was well received, and such a session was held with several members asking questions about how they might improve their stations.

ARRL ECOM Exams: Bill, K2ZEL, informed the membership that Dave Resnik, VE at Lee County, is certified to do testing for ARRL ECOM courses, and will do so upon request. Self-study for these exams is possible by downloading the course book from the ARRL web site. Please get in touch with Bill if you are interested.

Special Features:

There was no special feature this month.

50/50:

The 50/50 raffle, in the amount of \$21., was won by Larry, K8SRH.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Bob Graf, W2HI
Secretary

AMATEUR RADIO STATION OF THE MONTH

This month's 'Station of the Month' goes to Bill Reynolds, K2ZEL



K2ZEL (aka "Bill") operating HF at my station. The station is a combination operating position and a workshop for my tinkering and building. Station equipment includes (1) ICOM 760MIIG, (2) Kenwood TS570D, (1) Yaesu FT 90R (dual band fm), and ICOM IC 2100 (2m only fm), and asst. ant tuners. Antennas include a BM-90, Home brew G5, a wire NVIS (all HF), a 2m Ringo, a 2m home brew J-pole, a 5-element 6m yagi Home brew, and a 10 element 2m yagi (home brew, on the ground to go back up next time the tower is down). There are two computers to support the digital modes. In the shop I have asst. test equipment to support tinkering. In the shack all the equipment is powered by Aston pwr. supplies. Also in the shack, all equipment including the computers and tnc's, are now wired through power gates which automatically switch to batteries on power failure in a few milliseconds. The batteries are (1) dep cycle marine battery and (4) Alpha sealed gel cell units. This will hold all comms until I can get the 5kw generator going and cut into the shack. Current projects in the tinkering include the following: 1) home brew solid state 6m am xmtr and rcvr; 2) a "go" box for vhf w/ gel cell battery (40 amp hr w/ power supply and float charger). The mobile station has an ICOM 706MIIG w/ laptop for digital as the primary rig connected to a "lil" tarheel antenna for 80 through 6. The vhf/uhf xcvr is connected to a mag mount and shuttled in and out with the shack.

Dominica Amateur Radio Club Update
by Karl Geng, N1DL



George (J79KUB) is running a class in Castle Bruce .The whole disaster preparedness group is taking the class. Police, firemen ,nurses and other community Members.

The Club has now finished converting the steel freight containers into a clubhouse and club station. Clem, J73CI, secured an air conditioner to help keep the place cool for visiting hams operating J73Z (the locals don't need the air - HI).

The class in the picture is in the village of Castle Bruce on the north east side of the island and away from the main activities. My friend Joseph, J73JT, lives there and has helped to gain a lot of interest in Ham Radio. We have supported him from the Marco ham group for years with rigs etc.

The Dominica hams are an active bunch, and as can be seen in the picture, there are a lot of potential new calls coming out of the current class.

The last donation, by the way, was an SB200 linear that our club member, Bill Reynolds K2ZEL donated. Thanks Bill.

For the new hams in J7 land, 2m equipment is most important as it allows island wide (nationwide) communication via the interlinked repeaters and remotes. So if anyone has some surplus let me know.

Karl, N1DL

FEMA Training Opportunities, courtesy Fred Edwards, KF4MJJ:

**Excellent (FEMA) PROFESSIONAL Training Opportunities
at ****NO COST******

Classes will be held at the Broward County EOC in Plantation.

NOTE: THIS IS A ONE-TIME (NOT TO BE REPEATED) TRAINING BLITZ IN SE FL. We rarely get FEMA courses in this neck of the woods...!

May 29 to 30 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day)

1. Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Management and Operations (G-275)

[Course G-275](#)

****Fundamentals of EOC operations**

2. Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center (ICS/EOC) Interface (G-191)

[Course G-191](#)

****Learn how field operations and county EOC work together!**

3. Basic Public Information Officer (PIO): (G-290)

[Course G-290](#)

****An excellent course for PIOs. Practical learning on how to write a press release; how to handle an interview; conduct a press conference**

For a complete list of courses around the state see this web page:

FloridaDisaster.org [Training Schedule](#)

A couple of weeks prior to this is:

- The Governor's Hurricane Conference

May 14 to 18 at the Ft Lauderdale/Broward Convention Center

The GHC website is at:

www.flghc.org

COURSES MAY BE FILLED UP - IF INTERESTED, LOOK INTO IT RIGHT NOW !

Also from Fred Edwards, KF4MJJ:

BROWARD COUNTY ARES/RACES FIELD DAY

Broward County ARES/RACES hosting Field Day at Plantation Heritage Park in Plantation Florida. All clubs and individuals are invited to come out to this field day. Field Day this year is on June 23, and 24th 2007. At the upcoming ARES/RACES meeting we will discuss Field Day 2007 in detail as to get Station Captains, who is doing, what, when and where.

We would like any club or person that wants to participate to come out and let us know ASAP what equipment you would be bringing out to include antennas, coax, generators, food, etc.

This event at the present time is starting Friday night for those that wish to camp out in tents, RV's or pop-ups. We will have a good amount of room to accommodate those that wish to camp out for this event.

At present, the clubs that have shown an interest in coming out are the Broward Amateur Radio Club and the Palmetto Amateur Radio Club and many individuals.

Please RSVP your club's interest or your individual interest in attending this year's field day and please come to our ARES/RACES meeting which will be held on May 15th, at Sunview Park, 1500 SW 42 Ave in Fort Lauderdale (first left turn West of 441) at 7:30 PM. Talk-in will be on the 146.910 -600 Repeater. PL 110.9 or on the 146.790 -600 Repeater.

Please email me (Robin) at n4hhp@comcast.net if you plan on attending this meeting. If you can not attend this meeting but plan on attending this Field Day, please email me what you would like to do, bring out, plan, etc. Together we can have a great field day.

Robin Terrill N4HHP Broward County RACES Officer
Dave Wagner WA2DXQ Broward County ARES Emergency Coordinator

FOR SALE OR TRADE

For sale and pick up:

- 1 MFJ-249 antenna analyzer 1.8MHz to 170MHz w/ manual (125.00 OBO)
- 1 Ringo for 6m (no manual) (pick it up)
- 1 Hustler 5-BTV trap vertical complete w/ manual (pick up)

Call 992-4708 Bill, K2ZEL

NEW Equipment Photos from Members



Joe, K9KNW has a new Tower !



George, N3ISH has a "New" Clegg 99'er

Interesting Report from Scarborough Reef Dxpedition, from Karl Geng, N1DL:

You've got to hear this interview from Scarborough Reef Dxpedition:

<http://www.dokufunk.org/upload/BS7H.MP3>

Now that is dedicated Dxpeditioning !

73 es DX
Karl N1DL

Duration: 8min 44sec - MP3 Format - Requires an MP3 player such as Windows Media Player or any other MP3 player.

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

**NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY - MAY 22, 2007
7:30 PM - GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY CENTER**