



# ARASWF

## Newsletter



Vol. XXIII No. 4    The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida    April 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 Liaison: AI4CZ  
Carolyn Conklin  
Newsletter: WD8RFL  
Mike Welsh  
Webmaster: W2HI  
Bob Graf  
Social Chair: W2JQ  
Sigi Boernet

### *From the President's Shack:*

It is sometimes said that you are not a real ham until you have been to a Hamfest and purchased a piece of vintage gear. No one is more experienced in the art of hamfesting than our own Past President, WB2QLP, Jordan Mash.

A recent purchase by Jordan was brought to my shack to "check out". Of course I know what "check-out means"... it means the complete rebuild, reconstruction, and restoration of a vintage rig.

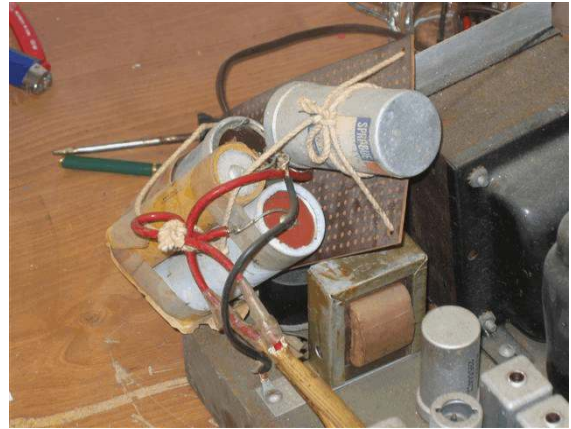
Since there are so many new hams, I thought the accompanying pictures would be helpful to those new to our hobby. You see, you really need to know what to look for at a hamfest. First, don't worry about "original and not modified", because it is fun to enjoy original and imaginative adds and mods. The radio pictured has all the California LSD mods, probably dating from the Vietnam War era.

Second make sure of the electrical integrity of the rig by at least a visual inspection. In the picture you can see that the important electrolytic capacitors are securely mounted with heavy duty string.

Happy hamfesting to all, and I hope you are all fortunate enough to find gems as good as the G-50 that found its' way into my shack.

73's  
Peter  
KK4PG

## Jordan's (WB2QLP) G-50



### MEMBERSHIP DATA - 2007

At the current time, there are 92 members of ARASWF, and all 10 U.S. callsign areas are represented, as follows:

- "1" - 13 members
- "2" - 9 members
- "3" - 1 member
- "4" - 43 members
- "5" - 1 member
- "6" - 1 member
- "7" - 1 member
- "8" - 7 members
- "9" - 10 members
- "Ø" - 6 members

All members are encouraged to check their listing in the Roster on the club web site [www.araswf.org](http://www.araswf.org), and report any discrepancies to the club secretary, W2HI, at [secretary@araswf.org](mailto:secretary@araswf.org). For everyone's convenience, the Roster now has 2 listings of members – one sorted alphabetically by last name, and one sorted by call sign.

***Minutes from March 27<sup>th</sup> 2007 Meeting:***

**Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida**

**Regular Monthly Business Meeting held at the Golden Gate Community Center, Golden Gate, Florida, on Tuesday, March 27th**

**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:**

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**MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Called To Order:**

There being a quorum present with 35 members, including 5 directors, in attendance, Peter, KK4PG (President) called the meeting to order at 7:25 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, 2/27/07	\$6732.96
Income:	
Butternut antenna proceeds	\$ 75.00
February 50/50	\$ 26.00
Sale old repeater	\$ 30.00

Member dues	<u>\$150.00</u>
Total income	\$281.00
Available funds	\$7013.96
Expenses:	
Aluminum for repairs	\$ 26.00
Trailer tires, materials for repairs	\$576.97
Trailer springs	\$178.61
Kenwood TK840N for echolink	\$ 77.00
Trailer license	\$ 32.10
Roll of stamps	<u>\$ 39.00</u>
Total expenses	\$929.68
Cash on hand 3/27/07	\$6084.28

### **Officers' Reports:**

Upcoming events: Peter, KK4PG, announced that repairs to the club antenna trailer were scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>, the same date as the next VE test session. On a suggestion by Fred, NJ2F, the date for the trailer repairs was postponed by one week – the new date is Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Peter also reminded the membership of the upcoming Golden Gate Civic Association Festival to be held on the weekend of March 31<sup>st</sup>. Profits from the Festival are divided among several other local civic associations.

Operation ComGapFill: Karl, N1DL, discussed the upcoming Operation ComGapFill to be held on Saturday, March 31, 2007, from 0900 to 1200 hours local time. The intent of the exercise is to demonstrate our ability to communicate both within and outside Collier County in the event of an emergency. Contact will be made with Broward, Lee and Glades Counties, as well as with the Collier EOC. Three teams will conduct the exercise:

Team A will operate locally on 2 meters FM using repeaters and simplex;  
Team B will operate SSB on 144.200 MHz and 50.130 MHz to other counties and (hopefully) to the Miami hurricane center;  
Team C will act as Mission Control and communicate with FEMA and other agencies.

Fred, KF4MJJ, brought to the meeting several radios with special school frequencies to be used during the exercise, and these were distributed.

Peter, KK4PG, invited all those participating in this Operation to his home after the exercise for discussion and pizza.

### **Committee Reports:**

VE Testing: Carolyn, AI4CZ, reported that the next test session will be held on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30am, and encouraged all club VEs to attend. She also reminded the membership that the General class question pool is scheduled to change July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007, and will include new schematics. The Extra class question pool is not scheduled for change until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. Jeff, NJ2F, made

a suggestion that flyers be posted at local Radio Shack stores and local Marinas, and Carolyn will initiate design of flyers to be used.

### **Old Business:**

Keewaydin DXpedition: Bob, KI4LUD, reminded the membership that the annual Keewaydin DXpedition is scheduled for Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, and passed around a sign-up sheet for members interested in participating. The anticipated cost is approximately \$30. per person, which amount may be reduced if any boats are made available without cost to the club.

### **New Business:**

Naples Triathlon: Bob, KI4LUD, asked for 7-8 volunteers to assist with communications at the upcoming Naples Triathlon to be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and passed around a sign-up sheet.

### **Special Features:**

Battleship New Jersey: Joe Goggin, N2XYZ, made a very interesting slide presentation about the amateur radio station NJ2BB on the battleship New Jersey, USS BB62, which now is a museum at Camden, NJ. He described the varied maintenance and restoration projects, and the activities of local radio amateurs in these projects. Joe provided handouts to the membership, and invited the members to visit the website [www.nj2bb.org](http://www.nj2bb.org) for more details and current information about the Battleship New Jersey amateur radio station.

Digital Voice Communications: Dan, WB7ECV, discussed the various systems currently being deployed in the USA that provide new digital voice communications, including the following:

D-Star (Digital Smart Technology for Amateur Radio) introduced by Icom for VHF/UHF only. This is a development of the Japanese Amateur Radio League (JARL), and requires radios to have special D-Star modules for receive and transmit;

APCO Project 25 (P25) introduced using mostly somewhat expensive Motorola and E.F.Johnson equipment. This system appears to have the support of both Kenwood and Yaesu, and is for VHF/UHF only.

ITU TV.32 also is for VHF/UHF only, and has the support of Alinco.

There are two HF systems also, apparently being supported by AOR and others.

At present, there is no digital VHF/UHF voice activity in southwest Florida. There is one repeater operating in Orlando. However, digital voice does offer certain advantages over other modes including narrower bandwidth that allows more stations to use the allocated bandwidth which, in many metropolitan areas, is completely occupied.

Specific features include:

- +/- 1.2KHz deviation on 2 meters and 440MHz;

- 10 KHz total occupied bandwidth on 2 meters, which is slightly more than ½ of a normal F3 conventional FM transmitter with +/- 5KHz deviation
- Allows for automated interconnect and call routing functionality (Echolink, IRLP);
- Automatic station ID (on all transmitters);
- Allows for simultaneous APRS functionality during voice transmissions (built-in GPS on IC-2820H as an example);
- Range about the same in simplex as regular FM;
- No compatibility between the different digital voice formats;
- The common D-Star simplex frequency is presently 145.67MHz in areas where there is some activity, mostly metropolitan areas.

There are several amateur radio digital voice web sites with more information, including:

WinDRM Digital Voice Software:

[http://www.southgatearc.org/news/march2007/win\\_drm.htm](http://www.southgatearc.org/news/march2007/win_drm.htm)

(note:win\_drm.htm)

Digital Voice Amateur Radio Association:

<http://www.hamradio-dv.org/>

Icom America:

<http://www.icomamerica.com/amateur/dstar/dstar2.asp>

**50/50:**

The 50/50 raffle was won by Eric, KI4IMA, who graciously donated his \$23.00 winnings back to the club treasury.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

**Bob Graf, W2HI**  
**Secretary**

### Monthly DEC/EC Report

Jurisdiction: Collier County

Month: March

Year: 2007

#### AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

Total number of ARES members: \_\_\_\_36

Change since last month: \_Same\_(+, -, or same)

Local Net Name: Collier County Emergency Net

Total sessions: 5

NTS liaison is maintained with the NONE\_\_\_\_\_ Net

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month: 5

Person hours \_5.0

Number of public service events this month: 0

Person hours 0

Number of emergency operations this month 0

Person hours \_0

Total number of ARES operations this month: \_0

Total Person hours \_0

Comments: Exercise COMMGAPFILL. Held weekly nets.

Communications Exercise (COMGAPFILL 2007) on March 31, 2007 Collier County (Members of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida and the Marco Island Radio Club participated in cooperation with the Collier County EOC)

Several teams both mobile and stationary (some on emergency power) participated in a 3 hour emergency communications exercise in response to simulated Hurricane Xantippe. The stations were distributed throughout Collier County from Ochopee and Plantation Island in the East to Marco Island in the south, and the towns of Naples, Golden Gate and Immokalee.

Ninety-four formal messages were sent and received, both intra county and to neighboring counties, the Miami WX office and the State EOC in Tallahassee. We utilized a number of local 2m repeaters, simplex frequencies, 2m SSB and 40 and 80m SSB. In addition 5 stations had access to a County UHF commercial repeater.

Participating stations were:

KK4PG, N1DL, WB2QLP, W4SFR, WD8RFL, KI4LUD, NS0I, W2HI, KD4IQC, W1ERE, K3AVR, KM4MI, WB8VQU, KB1AKV, K8OMA, K9ZKJ, K4MIF, K5MIF, K2ZEL, KF4MJJ, KG4WSG, Miami WX (WX4MIA) : WX0WX, KG4UBX, and from Tallahassee State EOC: KA4EOC.

The exercise showed that we can handle emergency traffic but that we also need to focus on getting some members more experienced in net control and traffic handling. Realism was added when one of the repeaters broke down. We also realized that to reach more counties in Southern FL we must promote the use of 2m SSB more. The need for a formal written communications plan is evident.

We need to repeat this type of exercise at least 3 more times this year to increase proficiency. I am proud of our accomplishments in this exercise.

Karl Geng, N1DL

Emergency Communications Director

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Signature: Fred C. Edwards Title: EC EC Call sign: KF4MJJ

Please send to your SEC or DEC as appropriate by 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month

FSD-212 (1-04)



***From David Worboys, M0ZLB:***

## **International Marconi Day**

International Marconi Day (IMD) is a 24-hour amateur radio event held annually to celebrate the birth of Guglielmo Marconi on the 25th April 1874. The IMD event is not a contest: it is an opportunity for amateurs around the world to make point-to-point contact with historic Marconi sites using HF communications techniques similar to those used by Marconi, and to gain an attractive Award for achieving the requisite number of Marconi stations worked (see [IMD Award](#) ).

IMD is usually held on the Saturday closest to Marconi's birthday, when amateur radio stations are established and operated from original historic sites, or nearby. These stations are known as the ' [Award Stations](#) ' and are listed on this Web Site. The list is regularly updated as the various stations confirm their availability to operate.

Communications techniques have changed significantly since the days of Marconi's first experiments, and today, the Internet has become the most widely used of all communications media. However, the spirit of IMD remains basically that of making point-to-point contact between two stations using only the HF bands. The organising Committee of IMD has therefore decided that the use of the Internet to communicate between stations eg using the Internet Relay Linking Project (IRLP) will not count towards the Award.

A few Station Histories have been compiled, and we would like to hear from authorised Award Stations with any interesting details of your particular Marconi Site and, if possible, any original/early photographs. You will see that we have quite a lot, but we would like to build up good profiles of all of you.

If there are other stations out there who have direct historical connections with the great man himself (ie Guglielmo Marconi) and who would like to be added to the list of "Award Stations", let the webmaster know ; We are sure that there are many more of you who could qualify. But, please remember, to be recognised as an 'Award Station', you must show that your location has a DIRECT historical connection with Marconi and his operations during his lifetime. Whether or not you do qualify, please join us on 28th April 2007 and work as many of us as you can within the 24 hour period !!

For Updated information, visit this web page: [IMD Information](#)

On the Award Stations page, you will see our station, GB2MWT, in blue (meaning its a confirmed Award Station) - work the Award Stations, get a QSL card and a further Award for working a certain number of stations.

Our QRZ entry (GB2MT) has additional info and this [link](#) has a good write up. It would be great to work some 4's from "home"

73's  
David  
KG4ZLB/M0ZLB



***From Rodney Smith, KI4DBI:***

## **Gel Cell Batteries Available**

A Friend of mine has 50 plus Gel Cell Batteries, made by AlphaCell, Model Number 165GXL. It looks like they are 80 amp hour, per the web site. He wanted \$40.00 each but I was able get the price down to \$15.00 each, and "told him how he could help some Hams". The batteries are in very good condition, only 1 or 2 years old. Nothing is wrong with them, he just had to install new batteries for what they power up.

The address of where they are is 3480 45 Ave NE, Naples, off of Everglades Blvd. North. It is a home, and the batteries are on left side of the driveway.

He asks that you get them only DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS, and leave \$15.00 CASH NO CHECKS for each Battery under door mat of front door, " the Honor System".

I'm thinking this is good for go-kits, back-up power when power goes down. Hope this helps.

73, Rodney KI4DBI

## **HAM GEAR FOR SALE**

To Whom It May Concern:

A business client of mine was recently widowed. She has given me all of her late husband's radio gear to sell for a fair price. I think he was a member of your organization.

I really have no idea what much of this equipment is, but would be happy to show it to interested buyers.

There is at least one SW radio (maybe 2 ... I don't know), one amplifier (for the antenna, I think), an oscilloscope and other assorted gadgets.

Please let me know if you think anyone would be interested in this stuff. If not, I am going to sell it on eBay .... I just wanted to give your organization a chance to purchase it first.

Thanks,  
David Caswell

[davidcaswell@usa.net](mailto:davidcaswell@usa.net)

***From John Simander, NS0I:***

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Branch Manager, reports the following changes in DXCC, WAS and VUCC Card Checking Program rules.

"Effective immediately, DXCC announces the following changes to the DXCC Card Checking program:

The 10-year rule is now removed. Card checkers can now check cards 'for current entities only', dating back to November 15, 1945. Card checkers still cannot verify 160 meter cards or deleted entities.

In addition, DXCC card checkers can also check applications, if they agree to do so, for: The Worked All States Award (WAS) (See [www.arrl.org/awards/was](http://www.arrl.org/awards/was) ); and The VHF/UHF Century Club Award (VUCC) (See [www.arrl.org/awards/vucc](http://www.arrl.org/awards/vucc))

Contact Bill Moore, NC1L ( [dxcc@arrl.org](mailto:dxcc@arrl.org) ) with questions

***Submitted by Jordan Mash, WB2QLP:***

## **KG0WX 20/40/75/160 trap dipole**

This antenna is the culmination of a weekend's worth of work with the goal being to make a physically small 160m antenna with the addition of the extra bands being a bonus. The target was to make an efficient 160m antenna that fits into a 75m antenna's space, is coax fed and requires NO tuner or ground radials. Total cost was under \$40.

### **Materials list:**

130' of antenna wire, plus extra for adjustments 16" of 3" id schedule 40 PVC pipe, cut into 4" lengths 6" of 2" id schedule 40 PVC pipe, cut in half 4 4"x.25" hardwood dowels (cut into 2" pieces) & sealer 36' of Tramflex RG-8X coax (25.9pf/ft) 5 brass coat hangers, hooks cut off, straightened & varnish removed Superglue Gorilla glue 28 solder eye lugs 14 #8-32 machine screws 14 #8-32 nuts Center & end insulators

### **Tools:**

Soldering gun & solder  
Single edge razor blades or x-acto knife  
Drill with 1/4" & 1/16" bits  
Saw for PVC & dowels  
Tape measure  
Calculator  
Grid Dip meter or MFJ analyzer with dip coils  
Heavy wire cutters  
Sandpaper  
Pliers  
Measuring tape

Use your favorite web search engine and look for "Coaxial Trap Design" freeware

Start with the 75m traps - cut 2 4" lengths of 3" id PVC. Drill a 1/4" hole 1" from the end (make the hole angled so the coax doesn't kink). Cut 44 2" lengths of 1/4" hardwood dowels and wrap the middle of the PVC form with them (like a belt). This extends the O.D. of the PVC pipe to 4" diameter, which nets a better performing trap. Cut a 9' length of coax and remove the jacket from the last 2" of one end. Insert this into the PVC and wrap 1/2 turn around the form then tack the end in the hole with a drop of superglue. Set aside to dry and repeat for the 2nd 75m trap.

Wrap 7.86 turns of coax around the dowels and mark/drill for the second hole. cut the to coax to length so it sticks through the hole by 1-1/2 inches or so, trim the jacket again to fit the second hole. Lay a small bead of Gorilla glue around the dowels and wrap the coax tightly around the form then insert the end into the second hole and tack with superglue.

Separate the center conductor and braid on each end of the coax. Solder the braid from one end to the center conductor of the other end. Drill 1/16" holes in the ends of the form (4 holes per trap) for the coat hangers. You straighten and strip the coat hangers then use half a hanger per trap end. Insert the hanger and fold it up on the outside (you will end up with the hanger in the same shape as it was in the beginning, just smaller and with the trap threaded onto the bottom of the hanger). Solder the coax to the hanger where it passes through the trap - Braid on one end and center conductor on the other end. Solder lugs to the ends of the coat hangers. NOTE: Don't just depend on the solder to keep the lug on the hanger when the antenna goes up - I did and the lugs just pulled off when I raised the antenna. I used spare antenna wire to tie the trap to the antenna wire like a safety wire

Repeat for the 40m traps, with no dowels though and wind 5.46 turns. The 20m traps are a different monkey, though - the coil form is only 2" id and the resulting trap is sensitive to the number of turns you use - I found a 1/2" addition to the coax length changed the resonant frequency by 200 kHz! I wrapped just under 4.4 turns.

I used a Heathkit GD-1B Grid dip meter to verify that the traps all worked - this is optional but you could also use a MFJ analyzer with dip coils, too. Build your center feedpoint (I didn't use a Balun) and attach 17' of antenna wire to each side.

Attach the 20m coils to the wire - note - you MUST orient the traps so that they all "point" the same way. That is, the end of the traps with the center conductor soldered to the coat hangers must all face the feedpoint (or the reverse) - just keep 'em all lined up. Now, with 17' of wire on each side of the feedpoint and the 20m traps on the ends of the wire, raise the antenna and trim it for where you want on 20 meters. I found this section of the antenna very broad-banded - I only had to trim 2-1/2" off each leg to cover all of 20m

Now to the part where you have to start "guessing" - with my Tramflex brand coax, the nature of my traps as loading coils on the lower bands determined how much wire I needed for the lower bands. Your traps may be different! Here is what I ended up with: 20 meter section: 16' 9-1/2" each side

40 meter section: 9' 9" between the traps  
75 meter section: 14' 8-1/2" between the traps  
160 meter section: 33' 4-5/8" on the ends.  
Total antenna length is just under 130'

I installed the antenna as a flat dipole @ 25' up. Here are the RF results I got:  
20 meters: 476.2khz bandwidth centered on 14175.0 (Trap Freq 14017.8)  
40 meters: 151.4khz bandwidth centered on 7207.0 (Trap Freq 7010.2)  
75 meters: 97.5khz bandwidth centered on 3930.75 (Trap Freq 3891.4)  
160 meters: 47.2khz bandwidth centered on 1877.0

Now comes the fun - making a few contacts! For reference I have a Cushcraft R7000 vertical ground mounted, a Mosley TA-33M @ 25', a ladderline fed 40m inverted V @ 25' and a 75m linear loaded inverted V @ 25'. Normally, the R7000, 40m inv V and the Yagi trade off as to which one works better - It's a matter of take off angles and target distances. The 75m linear loaded dipole was my only 75m antenna so I assumed it was OK. Now, the new antenna on 20m is always at least as good as the R7000. On 40m there is no contest - the new antenna beats the R7000 by 1-2 S units and 1 - 1-1/2 S unit over the ladder line fed inverted V. On 75m the new antenna beats the linear loaded by the same amount. I don't have another 160m antenna for reference but after a few evenings on the band I can tell it's working equally as well as the rest of the antenna.

OH - one more thing - I don't own a tuner but I might get one to extend the useable range on 160m....

Ken KG0WX

***Also Submitted by Jordan...***

## **STORM SPOTTING**

[Tom Stefanac \(VE3VWX\)](#) on March 28, 2007

Spring has sprung for many and that means the summer severe weather season is just around the corner!

Storm spotting, the act of monitoring the development of inclement weather dates back to 1942. In the period between 1942 and 1943 the U.S weather bureau lunched a joint project with the military to setup several networks of storm spotters in places where it was deemed necessary and important. The initial reason these network were setup was to effectively detect and monitor lightning in the vicinity of ordnance plants where highly volatile concoctions for munitions were created. Initially it was believed that only lightning posed any considerable threat but this was not true and two major events would change the role of storm spotters forever.

The year 1942 was particularly active with a large number of tornadoes effecting numerous military and civilian operations. On April 27th 1942 a tornado struck Pryor Oklahoma damaging a number of munitions plants and on May 15th 1943 a tornado directly struck and damaged a

number of buildings at the Fort Riley base in Kansas. These events as well as others lead to the development of over 200 spotter networks by 1945; however most spotters were still either military, aviation or law enforcement personnel. It was not until 1947 after a series of violent tornadoes that the state of Texas placed emphasis on the development of a volunteer spotter network.

The 1950's introduced the era of weather radar and by this time spotters were commonplace. It was quickly discovered that the deployment of reflectivity only radars provided much needed information about basic storm structure, evolution and basic motion but these radar's could not detect the motion of individual particles within a storm, only spotters could visually convey such information greatly helping forecasters determine tornado potential. Thus the era of ground truthing as we know it today had begun. Modern automated weather technologies provide information that people could only dream about in the early days of weather forecasting, but many limitations exist and that is why spotters are crucial. While modern weather radar can reveal a potential tornado signature, estimate hail size, calculate downburst wind speeds and a multitude of other things, most weather radar data is taken at a height of 1km or more above the ground and that means the only way to verify what the radar is suggesting is through the use of trained spotters observing what is actually happening at the ground level.

While it is unlikely that an ARES group would be called to action for a civil emergency, spotters play an active role many days of the year in different regions across the globe and many spotter groups are directly associated with ARES on some level.

For anyone who wishes to become a storm spotter in the U.S please visit [www.skywarn.org](http://www.skywarn.org) and for those in Canada please visit <http://vaxxine.com/va3nag/canwarn/training.html> or <http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/severe-weather/canwarn-e.html> .

European amateurs and others should contact their local weather agency for more information.

If you have missed all your local training sessions, or cannot attend a session there is online training material, <http://spotterguides.us/> .

Here are some basics:

- The common simplex frequency used when spotting is 146.550 or 146.490
- The most common UHF frequency is 446.025 which is often cross banded to 146.550

When giving a report:

- Always give your call sign or spotter number
- Time and general location followed by exact location
- Type of event and its duration
- Use commonly accepted measurements
- Report any damage
- Use acceptable spotter terminology to describe cloud or storm features

Remember, severe weather does not mean only tornadoes. Flash flooding, hail, strong winds, and storm structure are all important things to report but most important of all is to be safe and keep your eyes on the skies at all times during severe weather.

***From David Worboys, M0ZLB:***

**Fleaspeak - The Vernacular of Hamfest Fleamarkets**

**Fleaspeak**

**English Translation**

This rig puts out a BIG signal  
This is a really good CW rig  
This is a really good SSB rig  
This is a really good rig  
The transmitter is outstanding  
The receiver is really hot  
This rig is really hot  
It seems to be a vintage regenerative type  
I just retubed it  
I just aligned it  
I don't know if it works  
It doesn't chirp  
The audio sounds great  
I just had it serviced  
It comes with the original box  
Better buy it now, cause it won't last  
Sure, it works at full power  
This rig has wide frequency coverage  
Frequency stability is great  
Real popular rig in its day

QST gave this one a really great review  
It might need a bit of tweaking  
It was used in government service  
The dial drive may need lubricating  
I plugged it in to check that it lights up  
I'm selling it because I have two of them  
You won't find one at a better price  
This is a collector's item

It came from an estate sale  
I had it on the air just last night  
It worked last time I used it  
The only lightning damage was a fuse  
I have the [] somewhere I'll send it to you  
I'll help you carry it to the car  
It works ok on 80 meters

The tubes used by this rig are worth the asking price

This is the rig of my dreams

The signal quality of this rig was easily recognizable in its day

It's 50 kHz wide  
It doesn't work on SSB  
It doesn't work on CW  
It doesn't work on CW or SSB  
It doesn't receive  
It doesn't transmit  
It's stolen  
It oscillates  
Got 'em from questionable used tube stock  
The slugs on the transformers are jammed  
It doesn't work, probably never has  
It doesn't chirp because it doesn't transmit  
The 120Hz buzz is faithfully reproduced  
I sprayed WD-40 over all the wiring  
Just brush out the kitty litter  
No translation needed  
It sucks all it can from the wall  
It drifts up and down and out of band  
The VFO doesn't work - you'll have to use crystals  
There were whole HF nets on the repair and maintenance problems  
The language broke new ground for profanity  
Marconi himself couldn't fix it, much less align it  
It was stored outdoors on a wooden pallet  
The gears are stripped and the set-screws frozen  
The light came from the two foot high flames  
I'm getting rid of my parts radio  
Better from the point of view of the seller  
The manufacturer just went belly up and won't honor the warranty  
If you have any problem take it up with the owner  
And you thought the woodpecker was gone  
If it still worked I'd still be using it  
The only lightning damage I recognized was a fuse  
You'll never see the []  
I'll do anything to unload this boat anchor  
It had some parasitics, but I got in and really screwed it up and now I want to unload it  
The rig uses a rare 7360 beam deflection tube for a balanced modulator, but it's blown and you'll spend \$80 to get a new one  
I really wanted one of these as a kid, but now I've got to let it go. As I've gotten older, I've learned what a hunka junk it is  
The high distortion and bad audio quickly identified this rig

This rig will bring back the feelings and atmosphere of vintage ham gear                      The bypass  
   capacitors to the AC line put enough voltage on the chassis  
   to give you a shock in the lips through the microphone,  
   and it smokes so bad when you turn it on that you'll probably  
   start coughing and wheezing  
I'd keep this baby, but my wife is making me clean everything out                      I finally got  
   around to giving this thing the proverbial heave-ho  
There are a couple of other people interested in it                      Someone sat on it to tie his shoelaces  
   while walking past the table  
You'd better buy it now, because I'm leaving soon                      The previous buyer and his brother,  
   Guido, are heading back toward the table and they aren't smiling

Visit our Club Web Site at: [www.araswf.org](http://www.araswf.org)

**NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY - APRIL 24, 2007  
7:30 PM - GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY CENTER**