



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. XXIV No. 3 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida - March 2008

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: KI4UAT

Tim Gibbons

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 Editor: KG4ZLB/M0ZLB

David Worboys

<http://www.m0zlb.com>

Webmaster: W2HI

Bob Graf

Social Chair: W2JQ

Sigi Boernet

In This Issue:

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- Stop Press – latest news!

Next Meeting will be held on March 25th, 2008 !!

From the President's Shack

Our next meeting is March 25, 2008. At this meeting we will continue with the video series on PSK-31. The subject will be operation procedures.

Also at the next meeting we will finalize plans for our participation in Frontier Days. We will be providing communications and operating the club station.

Frieda Kriedman, Jordan's mom, has agreed that our club can use the WB2QLP call. Frieda wrote me as follows:

"Please advise the members of ARASWF that I was VERY PLEASED to learn that Jordan is being remembered in this special way, and also to know that WB2QLP will live on in the environment that was so much a part of Jordan's life."

73's
Peter
KK4PG

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Meeting Minutes

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Monthly Business Meeting held at the Golden Gate Community Center, Golden Gate, Florida, on Tuesday, February 26th, 2008

Directors Present: Peter Gady, KK4PG – President
Tim Gibbons, KI4UAT - Vice President
Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL – Treasurer
Karl Geng, N1DL – Emergency Communications Director

Apologies:

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order:

There being a quorum present with 53 members, including 5 directors, in attendance, Peter, KK4PG (President) called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Peter noted that there were some special guests in attendance, including past president Martin AD4TR (now N4UU), and Jordan Mash's special friend Eileen.

Introductions:

After a brief update by Peter KK4PG on the circumstances of the passing of Jordan Mash WB2QLP, he asked all attendees to introduced themselves and express whatever comments they might wish to share regarding their personal relationship with Jordan. All did so, and the result was a moving and sentimental remembrance of our late friend.

Reading & Approval of Previous Minutes:

Reading of the Minutes was dispensed with since the minutes of the January meeting were published previously in the ARASWF Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill, K2ZEL, presented the following annual Treasurer's Report:

Balance, 1 February, 2008	\$ 4,416.29
Income:	
Dues	\$ 1,450.00
50/50	<u>\$ 39.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 1,489.00
 Total Funds Available	 \$ 5,905.29
Expenses:	
Postage	\$ 206.00
Liability Insurance	\$ 335.10
Refreshments	\$ 35.00
Mass Mailing	\$ 43.88
License renewal	<u>\$ 16.70</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 636.68
 Balance 26 February, 2008	 \$ 5,268.61

Officers' Reports:

Old Business:

New Business:

Memorial Plaque: Martin, N4UU, reported that he was in contact with the Florida Contest Group regarding the possibility of sponsoring a plaque to be awarded annually to the winner of the Florida QSO Party in the memory of Jordan Mash, WB2QLP. This will involve a \$40. annual payment for the cost of the plaque. A motion to proceed with this sponsorship was made by David, M0ZLB, seconded by Allen, KI4IMA, and unanimously approved.

Proposed Change of Repeater Call Sign: Dave, WB8VQU, then asked the membership to consider the following proposal:

“In memory of Jordan Mash, WB2QLP, who exemplified the finest spirit of amateur radio, I propose that the call of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida 146.67 repeater be changed from K4YHB to WB2QLP. Also, in consideration of the fact that Jordan was dedicated to continuing the tradition of operating CW, I further propose that the repeater identify in CW whether or not voice identification is used and that the CW identification be cycled as often as good operating procedure permits, so that his call will not be lost or silenced on the radio waves.”

A motion to implement this proposal when it is possible to do so was made by Larry, K8SRH, seconded by George, AA4GT, and unanimously approved.

Tri-bander Giveaway: Peter announced that N1OIC has a tri-band beam that he is willing to give away to anyone who wants it. Interest was announced by a member, and arrangements are being made for pick-up.

Golden Gate Frontier Days: Peter, KK4PG, announced that several volunteers were needed for the Golden Gate Frontier Days event, and passed around a sign-up sheet for members to indicate the date and time they could volunteer for. Jeff, NJ2F, reminded the audience that those dates conflicted with the WPX contest, and suggested that a station be set-up at the event, utilizing the club tower trailer, for those members who wished to participate in the contest and, at the same time, provide volunteer duty at the event. All agreed that was a great idea!

Operation ComGapFill2: Fred, KF4MJJ, announced that a second Operation ComGapFill was scheduled for Saturday, March 29th, and that volunteers were needed to participate in this emergency communications exercise. Participation will be from 9 am to Noon, utilizing the 147.03 repeater as the primary VHF frequency, with 146.67 as backup. Fred will plan to discuss this exercise in more detail at the next membership meeting to be held March 25th.

Fred also reminded the audience that a SkyWarn training is scheduled for the 1st weekend in March.

Committee Reports:

Field Day Committee: Bruce, K9PWQ, gave a brief report on the activities of the Field Day Committee, and the various things under consideration. The committee is just

getting started with its considerations, and no decisions have yet been made about any of the outstanding matters. Karl, N1DL, announced that he has obtained the call sign “W4F” for Field Day use, and offered it for use by the club.

Special Feature:

This month’s special feature was a 2nd 15 minute video presentation by K7AGE about PSK 31 provided by Peter, KK4PG.

Questions:

A question from the floor as to whether there have been any changes to the club repeater that would affect its signal quality, Dan, WB7ECV, reported that his measurements show that there has been no change in receiver sensitivity or transmitter power output in the past two years. Dan maintains a spreadsheet with the recorded readings for comparison and historical purposes.

50/50:

The 50/50 raffle was won by Bill, K2ZEL, who donated his \$36.50 winnings back to the club treasury.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Karl, N1DL, duly seconded and unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Bob Graf, W2HI
Secretary

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Emergency Management Awards

From Collier County Government

Emergency Management Staff Earns Professional Awards

Collier County Bureau of Emergency Services Director Dan Summers, CEM, earned the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association’s 2008 ***Emergency Management Professional of the Year*** award for demonstrating exceptional leadership in the emergency management community over the past year.

“Over the last four years with Collier County government, Dan has continued to promote and improve the

emergency management profession by implementing numerous programs including Disaster Response Units; requesting mandatory training for more than 600 emergency services personnel; as well as managing the final phases of design and construction of a \$56 million state-of-the-art Emergency Services Center,” said County Manager Jim Mudd.

Additionally, Collier County Emergency Management Department volunteer Frederick C. Edwards earned the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association’s **2008 Volunteer Award** for volunteering more than 6,000 hours in emergency-management related activities geared toward protecting the lives and properties of county residents and visitors.

“For more than a decade, Fred has volunteered in every Collier County government emergency activation including wildfires, hurricanes and tornados; taken a leadership role in training events and meetings; and completed routine maintenance and logistical duties,” said Emergency Management Coordinator Rick Zyvoloski. “More importantly, Fred is a member of the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service /Amateur Radio Emergency Service (RACES/ARES) team in Collier County and is responsible for ensuring that this essential resource is fully operational at all times.”



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Operation Commgapfill

Mission Plan

Objective:

The key objective of this mission is to verify the readiness of the South West Florida Amateur Radio community to provide intra-county and inter county emergency communications on behalf of local government and NGO agencies.

Background:

South West Florida is a frequent host to tropical storms and hurricanes. As experiences in other parts of the country have shown, post disaster communications links relying on commercial infrastructure will often fail completely or are severely degraded.

Amateur Radio with its trained pool of operators and a variety of battery and generator powered equipment can fill the gap and provide emergency communications within a disaster area and point to point to the outside logistics and staging areas.

Given the variety of potential communication modes, frequencies and equipment used by the Hams coupled with the varying degree of readiness of local government and NGO communication, it is important that some realistic training and verification exercises are held.

Following the exercises a review meeting will be held to identify and correct weaknesses, additional training requirements and improvement potential for coordination with agencies.

Scenario:

Hurricane Xantippe has just passed over SW Florida and left Collier County and parts of Lee and Hendry County without electricity, Cellphone and landline telephone service. Thousands of residents are in shelters unable to return to their permanent homes. Many roads are blocked with fallen trees and debris. There is flooding in some low lying areas. Damage to the trunked County communication system has severely degraded its performance creating a bottleneck for post disaster follow up. Communication outside

the effected area for health and welfare traffic as well as Logistics support from State and Federal Agencies has been identified as one of the key priorities.

The local Amateur Radio Clubs and Societies have been asked to help with communications within the effected area but also to establish links to the outside.

Net Control:

Primary net control will be the EOC. During the test, net control maybe passed to other stations as necessary. All stations should check in with Net Control if possible.

Resources:

1) VHF Comm Team "Alpha" 147.030+ 146.520 simplex

Ham operators with 2 meter FM handhelds and mobile radios to be dispatched as needed to hospitals, shelters, police and fire stations.

These operators will form a local network for relaying messages primary repeater, secondary repeater or simplex.

2) VHF Comm Team "Bravo"

This team is tasked to establish inter county SSB links via 2 and 6 meter Single Side Band with adjacent counties and the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

3) HF Comm Team "Charlie"

The task of this group is to establish and maintain point to point shortwave SSB and data communication with State Agencies in Tallahassee and other Logistics and Staging areas, as well as other networks operated by FEMA, SATERN and the Civil Air Patrol.

Misc.:

Primary frequencies for Team Alpha are:

Primary repeater 147.030, Secondary 146.670, or simplex 146.52

Marco use 146.850/141.3

Primary frequency for Team Bravo is 144.210 MHz USB with a backup on
6 meters 50.130 MHz USB.

Team Charlie will utilize the common HF phone and Data frequencies published. (*more later*)

Both Team Bravo and Charlie will communicate with Team Alpha via 2m FM.
147.030 or 146.52 simplex

All operators will check in with their teams on the assigned team frequency and report their availability and location.

Potential Exercise Dates and Time:

March 29, (alternate April 5)

From 0930 to 1200 noon

OPEN ITEMS:

- 1) Get Tel numbers and email addresses for all participants***
- 2) Commitment from activity leaders/coordinators (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie teams, mobile organizers IMM, APF, Everglades City (AH8M, KI4IMA, KI4LUD ?)***
- 3) State EOC contact and comm. test***
- 4) Nat.Hurricane Center contact and comm. Test***
- 5) Message preparation (Karl Geng and Peter Gaddy)***
- 6) Determine digital communication involvement (Pactor, RTTY, AMTOR)***
- 7) Sign-up list from local clubs for participants***
- 8) Post exercise critique***

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New Member(s)

The Club would like to welcome Dick Hockemeyer, NY4FL of Naples as a Member and we look forward to welcoming Dick in person at the next Club meeting!

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LOCAL HAMFESTS

29 Mar 2008 Cy Harris Memorial Free Flea
Broward Amateur Radio Club <http://www.eagle3.net/barc>
Collins Center
3900 NE 3rd Avenue
Oakland Park, FL

**** WARNING - Pop-Ups and Ad Crap Content if you link to this site ****

19 Apr 2008 Flamingo Net / UMARC Free Flea <http://www.FlamingoNet.8m.net>
UM Physics Parking Lot
5001 San Amaro
Coral Gables, FL

25-26 Apr 2008 Southeastern VHF Society 12th Annual Conference
Southeastern VHF Society <http://www.svhfs.org>
Holiday Inn / UCF
12125 High Tech Avenue
Orlando, FL

24 May 2008 Wormfest 2008
The Glorious Society of the Wormhole <http://www.thewormholesociety.org/>
Freedom Lake Park
10100 46th Street North
Pinellas Park, FL

11-12 Jul 2008 Milton Amateur Radio Club <http://www.miltonarc.org>

Santa Rosa County Auditorium
4530 Jimmy's Way
Milton, FL

20 Sep 2008 Bahia Shrine of Orlando Amateur Radio Tailgate
Amateur Radio Unit of Bahia Shrine <http://www.bahiashrine.org/~radio/Tailgate.htm>
Bahia Shrine Center
2300 Pembroke Drive
Orlando, FL

**** WARNING - Pop-Ups and Ad Crap Content if you link to this site ****

15 Nov 2008 Flamingo Net / UMARC Free Flea <http://www.FlamingoNet.8m.net>
UM Physics Parking Lot
5001 San Amaro
Coral Gables, FL

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Editors Ramblings

I hope that you enjoy this edition of the newsletter which is the second that I have produced and distributed. As you may have seen, I am trying to make subtle changes which may or may not work but ultimately it is up to you, the Club Member and newsletter recipient to let me know how you feel about the changes. Additionally, I am always grateful to receive any snippets that you would like to see published as these make the newsletter truly a member's document. Feel free to send pictures of your shack (with some narrative) for the "Shack of the Month", links to interesting websites or even a link to your own ham radio website.

For the second month running I find myself producing and distributing this newsletter from my self enforced "exile" here in sunny Estero where I am using someone else's computer. If all goes to plan then the April edition will be coming to you from the less than sunny (in fact probably more like "extremely wet") south east of England where I will have access to my own pc etc. I intend to be in the UK for four or six weeks and the last job before returning will be to dismantle the shack so if anyone needs a QSO with G or M land on 10, 12, 15, 17, 20 or 80m, phone or (shaky) CW, then please let me know by e-mail and we can arrange a sked (conditions depending)

See you all next month!

David
KG4ZLB/M0ZLB

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Ham Humor! (thanks Tim)

- 1) Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married.
The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
- 2) Fred walked into the house after a long day at the hamfest. His hair was matted with sweat, there was a rip in the knee of his pants and both hands were blistered. His wife said "you look awful! What happened to you" Fred replied, "this was a terrible day! We had just started down the first aisle at the hamfest, when Bob fell over dead from a heart attack"
"Oh, no" his XYL responded "that's awful". "Tell me about it" replied Fred. "All day long it was look at radios, drag Bob, look at radios, drag Bob".
- 3) "My wife said if I got on the radio one more time she was packing her bags and leaving me...over"

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Stop Press – latest news!

Writer Arthur C Clarke dies at 90

British science fiction writer Sir Arthur C Clarke has died in Sri Lanka at the age of 90.

The following is from an item in Amateur Radio Newslines™ Report 1584 - December 21, 2007 commemorating his 90th birthday:

For years Arthur C. Clarke, has held honorary AMSAT membership number 2001 and, needless to say that he is best known for having penned the novel "2001: A Space Odyssey". That book was adapted into a motion picture directed by Stanley Kubrick. The film won an OSCAR for Best Special Visual Effects.

But Arthur C. Clarke's most important contribution may not have been his science fiction writings. Rather, he is credited with development of the concept that led to the development of the geostationary satellite as telecommunications relays in space.

Clarke first proposed this idea way back in October 1945 in a paper titled "Extra-Terrestrial Relays - Can Rocket Stations Give Worldwide Radio Coverage?" The article was published in United Kingdom publication Wireless World magazine. The technology he outlined became the basis for most modern communications into the 21st century. In this clip from a 1992 interview with the late Roy Neal, K6DUE, Clarke told how the idea came about:

Clarke: *"At the time I was working on a very complex RADAR. It was the First Ground Approach Control flight management system which has about a Thousand valves or what you call tubes. At least one would blow out every day, so I couldn't imagine that sort of equipment operating without mechanics on the spot to change them and give it service. So I assumed that these relay stations would be manned space stations, like the Freedom Space Station but at a lower altitude."*

"What I didn't envision was the incredible revolution in solid state electronics: First the transistor and later the micro-chip. And I have sometimes said though not very seriously that the invention of the transistor was a major catastrophe for astronautics because if we hadn't invented the transistor we would have had to build manned space stations and we would have been half way to Mars by now (giggle)."

For his effort, the geostationary satellite orbit known as the Clarke Belt was named in his honor.

Back to his literary career, in 1982 Arthur C. Clarke continued the Odyssey epic with a sequel titled "2010: Odyssey Two." This novel dealing with space during the Cold War was made into a film titled "2010: The Year We Make Contact." It was directed by Peter Hyams for release in 1984 but was not considered to be as revolutionary or artistic as was 2001.

But that was not the end of Clarke's Odyssey writings. In 1988 he penned the lesser known "2061: Odyssey Three" followed by "3001: The Final Odyssey" in 1997. To date, neither of these latter two Odyssey stories have made it to the big screen.

In all, Arthur C. Clarke has penned some 33 novels and another 29 non-fiction books and stories since he began writing them in 1950. His latest titled "Firstborn" was published this past year.

BBC News Report <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7304004.stm>

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**Amateur Radio Association
of Southwest Florida, Inc.**

Web Site

www.araswf.org