



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. XXIV No. 8 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida – August 08

Club Information

Meeting Time: 4th Tuesday 7:30pm
Golden Gate Community Center
4701 Golden Gate Parkway
Naples FL

Club Repeater: WB2QLP
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:

Tim Wallen, KC4SSD

Emergency Comm. Director: N1DL

Karl Geng

Newsletter Editor: KG4ZLB/M0ZLB

David Worboys

<http://www.m0zlb.com>

Webmaster: W2HI

Bob Graf

Ops. Director: Vacant

Public Information Officer: Vacant

Special Events Coord. Vacant

Awards Manager: Vacant

VE Liaison: Vacant

Social Chair: Vacant

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Next Meeting will be held on August 26th, 2008!!

From the President's Shack

At the time of writing, Tropical Storm Fay seems to be bearing down upon us so please everyone, be safe and I look forward to seeing you at the next Club meeting, August 26th, same time, same place!

73's.

Peter
KK4PG



Echolink update

No further updates as to when the Echolink system will be functional again but information will be given just as soon as it is known. In the meantime, many thanks to Carl WA9ZIF who continues to work tirelessly on the Echolink system for the benefit of the Club.



Meeting Minutes

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Monthly Business Meeting held at the Golden Gate Community Center, Golden Gate, Florida, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 2008

Directors Present: Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL - Treasurer

Apologies: Peter Gaddy, KK4PG - President
Tim Gibbons - Vice President
Karl Geng, N1DL - Emergency Communications Director
Tim Wallen, KC4SSD - Technical Director

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order:

There being a quorum present with 12 members, including 2 directors, in attendance, Bob W2HI (Secretary) called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Introductions:

Due to the small number of members in attendance, the usual introductions were dispensed with.

Reading & Approval of Previous Minutes:

Reading of the Minutes was dispensed with since the minutes of the May meeting were published previously in the ARASWF Newsletter, and there was no membership meeting held in June because of Field Day.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill, K2ZEL, presented the Treasurer's Report, which has since been corrected:

Balance, 22 April, 2008	\$ 5,200.15
Income:	
Donation Golden Gate Pioneer Days	\$ 300.00
Dues	\$ 100.00
Field Day Shirt sales	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 650.00
Expenses:	
Field Day Food	\$ 368.22
Field Day Flag, Hardware	\$ 32.83
Field Day Shirts	\$ 346.62
Equipment Insurance	\$ 190.91
Trailer License (2 yrs)	<u>\$ 44.75</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 983.33
 Total Funds Available, 27 May, 2008	 \$ 4,866.82

Officers' Reports:

Field Day Expenses: Bill, K2ZEL, reported that total expenses for Field Day are \$1,223.07, including the coax cable purchased for \$279.50 and the I.C.E. filters purchased for \$196.80. There may be a few small bills still to be paid, but the total should not increase significantly.

Old Business:

Bill, K2ZEL, reported that there are 4 Field Day shirts still available for purchase.

Committee Reports:

Field Day: Bruce, K9PWQ, reported that the Field Day results have been sent to ARRL. Total QSOs were 1128, resulting in 2256 total points, plus 250 bonus points.

Special Feature:

There was no special feature this month, due to the small number of members in attendance. Instead, there was an extended discussion about Field Day. George, AA4GT, suggested that since Write Log has the capability of reading CW on a somewhat consistent basis, we make an effort next year to use this feature to increase our CW score, in the absence of experienced CW operators. Someone reported that another member, who has very limited CW skills, used Write Log in the contest held on the previous weekend and scored well over 200 CW contacts, which demonstrates how successful this can be. Another member suggested that we make an effort next year to improve our exposure to the public, and possibly find a different location that would be more accessible to the public, which would improve our ability to attract the media. Several places were mentioned as possible locations, including the space next to the Golden Gate Community Center where the recent Frontier Days were held, and outside the new EOC center, if it is completed in time. Also, county parks, such as Wiggins Pass and were mentioned as possible locations. George, AA4GT, repeated his previously stated belief that the club can easily obtain a somewhat large generator from FEMA by making application to them. Finally, Bob, W2HI, reported that the call sign used for Field Day 2008 – W4F – has been reserved to the club for Field Day 2009.

50/50:

The 50/50 raffle was not held this month because of the small attendance at the meeting.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce, K9PWQ, seconded by Dave W4SFR, and unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Bob Graf, W2HI
Secretary

New Members

We would like to welcome Arthur Altarac - WA2KXE of Merrick, NY to membership of the Club. Although I have no firm details, I assume that Arthur is a seasonal visitor as it is unlikely that he will attend any meetings if that is not the case :) Welcome Arthur.

Full time RVing with Amateur Radio!

From time to time various photos of "base" stations have shown up in the bulletin. About four years ago my wife and I decided to try "full time RVing" for something different in our lives. One of the things that would entail was the dismantling of the station which had taken many years of tender care to put together. This consisted of a Yaesu FT1000 MP transceiver with separate speaker with phone patch, the matching Yaesu desk mike, and an MFJ antenna tuner. A Yaesu 7100 dual band VHF/UHF transceiver topped off the list inside. The antenna farm consisted of a 60' aluminum self supported tower with a 130' inverted vee with the apex at the top of the tower fed with 450 ohm open wire line. A Mosley CL-33 3 element beam for HF and an 11 element Cush Craft beam for 2 meters. Needless to say this would not find a place in the 34' fifth wheel unit we moved into. Time to try going mobile. I started with an Icom 706 MKIIG. I mounted the RF unit behind the back seat of the 2004 GMC 2500 series diesel truck necessary to pull the 16,000 pound trailer. That location was chosen because of convenience of access and also the requirement of GMC to keep any RF as far away from the engine compartment as possible. I made up a bracket to hold the control head as shown in the photo so that it was accessible with my arm resting on the center arm rest. The antenna "farm" consists of a High Sierra screwdriver type (they prefer the term motorized) antenna with a 6' whip for 80 thru 6 meters. This was mounted on another home brew bracket in front of the pickup bed behind the passenger compartment. This choice of location once again gives good access for maintenance and it also clears the front of the fifth wheel trailer when maneuvering. However, for 80 meter work in the evenings, an NVIS wire 17' long 6' off the ground replaces the 6' whip and works better for more local contacts. The VHF/UHF antenna is a dual band Comet mounted on the other side of the pickup bed. The 7100 found its way into a go-kit which is used for public service events and emergency purposes. It

gets used for the former reason several times a year. My activity for the HF station consists of participating in the CW traffic nets on 80 meters most evenings, a get together with some friends on 20 SSB at 0900 and some DX when possible. Big DX thrill lately was working the Duchie Is. dxpedition on 17 meter CW. Called him twice and came right back on the second call.



Trading Post

Nothing this month!

ARES/RACES

My fellow hams.

It is with great sadness that I have to inform you of the end of ARES in Collier County. In the last several years I have had participation from the hams in Marco Island but little else. The ARES meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month have not been attended therefore we will be canceling them. Also the Tuesday net on 147.030 has had little or no participation. This also will be canceled. If I need shelter operators I will email and call the ARASWF, if that fails I will be requesting assistance from out of the county.

If at a later time the hams show renewed interest, I will look into bring ARES back to Collier County.

Fred C. Edwards, KF4MJJ EC

40m Four Square Antenna Project

George, AA4GT, kindly sent in the following article written by LoTW guru, ARRL employee and all around nice guy Norm, W3IZ which was written for the Frankford Radio Club in Philadelphia of which George is a member. Thanks George! Please click the link for the photographs.

"Here are some pictures of my 40m four square antenna project.

<http://picasaweb.google.com/w3iznorm/40m4SquareAntenna>

If you are not familiar with this antenna system it is a directional array of four quarter wave verticals that has good front to back and forward gain.

I started this project at the end of last summer and finally finished it this past weekend. The project took so long because almost everything but the Comtek phase controller was scrounged. I held out for the controller until I found a used one for sale on the web.

The four identical free standing verticals are made from aluminum elements from discarded beams provided nice swaged pieces and other scrapped aluminum tubing makes up the verticals.

Phasing lines are from 75 ohm CATV coax and the "dog house" that hides the controller and cables was constructed from old shipping pallets.


The field is a flood plane and has lots of wet organic material so I only have 14 ground radials per vertical. I will probably add some more if I can get more copper wire. As you probably know the price of wire has jumped and it is tough to find scrap. Even the local scrap yard won't sell any because they do better with the brokers.

As you can see anything worth doing is worth overdoing. The end result is it works great. F/B is terrific and the xmit signal gets super reports.

The project was a lot of fun and I expect to really increase my 40m performance in the contests. Staying awake will be the real challenge.


73,

Norm, W3IZ"



Donations to the Club

Henry B. Sprague, W1CHR, a former member of the club has donated to the club the a Kenwood TS-140 transceiver with TenTec power supply, microphone, and all cables and manuals. "Banny" is 95 years young and is no longer able to operate on HF. He is still active in QCWC group that meets monthly at Lely Palms, where he resides. Thank You Banny for the equipment and it will be put to good use.



The T2FD Broadband Antenna

The T2FD is a broadband antenna... it is a very quiet antenna indeed, as it picks up very little man made noise as compared with a vertical or even a horizontal dipole. The SWR, Standing Wave Ratio, when transmitting may vary from an almost perfect match of 1.1 to 1 at some frequencies to a rather poor 3.0 to 1 or even 4.0 to 1 at other frequencies. This is why it is recommend using the T2FD with a wide band antenna tuner If you compare the T2FD with a dipole cut for a certain specific frequency, three things may happen:

1. T2FD may show a loss in respect to the dipole of from -1 to -6 dB
2. T2FD may perform just like a standard horizontal dipole (0 dBd gain)
3. T2FD may provide slight gain over a dipole (+1 to + 2 dB in most cases)

For example, a 15 meters long T2FD will be a good choice if you want to monitor the HF bands from 6 to 30 megahertz , and it will work quite well, with the help of a simple antenna tuner, for transmitting between the seven megahertz or 40 meters amateur band and 29.7 the top end of the 10 meters ham band.

Now, one more important thing to take into consideration... a T2FD antenna that will be used only for receiving , can be made using 2 Watts non inductive resistors , that will have a total value of between 600 and 1000 ohms. After many experiments it was found that for receive only and QRP low power transmission up to 5 Watts , a very good approach is to place two large sized two watt carbon resistors of between 300 and 500 ohms in series to

create a new equivalent resistor of between 600 and 1000 ohms. The two resistors can be placed inside a length of heat shrinking plastic tube, and then attached to a good quality insulator that will take the strain from the upper wires of the antenna... If you want to operate the T2FD with transmitters of more than five Watts, my suggestion is to search for high quality high power non inductive resistors in the 50 to 100 Watts power dissipation range...A pair of 50 watt non inductive 300 ohms resistors connected in series, will provide an excellent terminating resistor for transmitter in the 50 to 200 Watts input power, and I want you to know that 300 ohms non inductive resistors are about the easiest to find of this usually hard to find components.

You will also need to home brew a balanced to unbalanced radio frequency broadband transformer, better known among radio engineers as a BALUN(balanced to unbalanced abbreviated).

The balun for the T2FD antenna needs to be either a 12 to 1 or a 16 to 1, according to experts. But I have achieved good results when using a 9 to 1 balun. As antenna "guru" L.B. Cebik justly affirms, some radio hobby enthusiasts claim that the T2FD picks up less noise than a standard dipole or long wire, something that I fully back, especially in the case of the long wire antennas...The T2FD picks up less local noise than a long wire and a dipole. The formulas for calculating T2FD dimensions are as follows; a) the length of each leg ("A'') from the center is equal to 50,000 divided by the lowest desired operating frequency (in kHz) and then multiplied by 3.28. The answer is in feet, b)the spacing between radiating wires ("B'') is equal to 3000 divided by the lowest desired operating frequency (in kHz) and then multiplied by 3.28. The answer is in feet; c) the sloping angle for a non directional pattern should be on the order of 30, but 20-40 is acceptable.

Example:

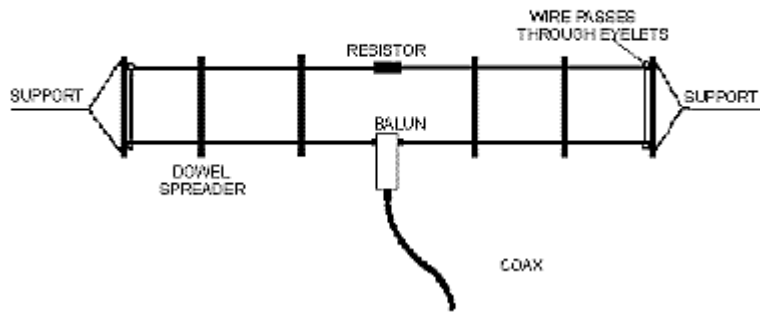
To design a T2FD for the center of the 90 meter band (3300 kHz) and up:

	Desired frequency	Spacing
Leg "A"	$(50.000 / 3300) \times 3.28$	49.70 feet
Leg "B"	$(3000 / 3300) \times 3.28$	2.98 feet

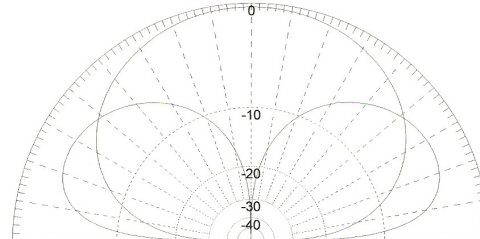
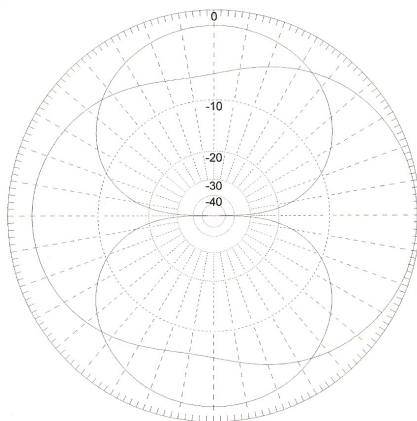
Total length of the antenna would be 99.4 feet (2×49.7), and the width would be 2.98 feet ("B").

The total wire used to complete the loop equals 204.76 feet (4×49.7) + (2×2.98).

Typical construction details for T2FD.
Actual dimensions calculated per formulas in article.



T2FD 7...28 MHz



Ga : -21.41 dBi = 0 dB (Vertical polarization)
F/B: -0.18 dB; Rear: Azim. 120 dg, Elev. 60 dg
Freq: 4.000 MHz
Z: 931.430 + j239.480 Ohm
SWR: 1.7 (600.0 Ohm),
Elev: 57.4 dg (Real GND :0.00 m height)



Colleen Sammons, KQ4TR, (SK)

SEPT. 18, 1932 - AUG. 8, 2008

Colleen Barbara Sammons of Fort Myers, FL passed away Friday, August 8, 2008 at Lee Memorial Hospital following a brief battle with Lymphoma.

Colleen was a retired beautician and a Florida resident since 1973. She was married to Grove "Sam" Sammons. Sam and Colleen were married in 1978.

Colleen was Secretary/Treasurer of the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club and held extra class license with the call sign of KQ4TR, and she was a volunteer License Examiner for the past 10 years.

Colleen loved to fish and camp at Lake Okeechobee and the Florida Keys.

Colleen was a charter member of Guiding Light Community Church and served as Assistant Treasurer. She was instrumental in securing the meeting place for the church. Her time and talents will be greatly missed by all the congregation.

Colleen was also active member in several fraternal organizations:

She was serving as Royal Matron of Lee Court No. 9, Order of Amaranth at the time of her death. She also served as Royal Matron in 1995 and has had numerous Grand Courts of Florida Appointments.

Colleen was the Past High Priestess of Abara Court No. 80, Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America and was serving at the time of her death as Honorary Grand Page for the Grand council of the Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America.

Colleen served as Worthy High Priestess twice of Ivah Shrine No. 26, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem and was serving as Worthy Scribe. She has had numerous Supreme White Shrine appointments.

She was the Past Directress of Calossa Ive No. 24, Royal Order of Jesterettes; a 25 year member of Fort Myers Chapter No. 31, Order of Eastern Star and a Plural member of Lehigh Acres Chapter No. 291.

Colleen was also a member of the Original Page Ladies of Araba Temple in Fort Myers.

Colleen is survived by her husband G.E. "Sam" Sammons and a cousin James Eastman and his wife Evie of Montague, MI.

A memorial service will be held at Guiding Light Community Church (which meets in Noah Lodge) on Willis Road in N. Fort Myers on Sunday, September 14 at 10:15 AM with the Rev. Dr. Benny E. Anthony officiating. A covered dish dinner will follow the memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, please make your contributions to Guiding Light Community Church, P.O. Box 3949, N. Fort Myers, FL 33918 or to the Araba Shriner's Hospital for Children.

Those of us who had the honor and privilege to know Colleen will truly miss her warm, loving spirit and her sense of humor. She was a great blessing to everyone who knew her.



Hamfest Announcements

43rd Annual Melbourne HAMFEST
and

ARRL Florida State Convention
Sponsored by the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS)

October 11 & 12, 2008
Saturday: 9AM-5PM Sunday: 9AM-2PM

Setup: Fri, Oct 10th at 6:00PM to 9:00PM, Sat, 7:30AM to 9:00AM

- Talk in: W4MLB on 146.25/146.85 repeater - No PL (Open Repeater)
- Location: Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd, Melbourne, Florida 32901
- GREAT Outside TAILGATE Area - See website for parking layout

\$10.00 per designated parking space - first come, first served after 3:00PM Friday.

Tailgate areas not

designated as regular parking are \$2.00/linear foot; these areas will only be assigned by special request.

Come early - open at 6:00AM on Saturday! Tickets are required in tailgate area.

- Plenty of Inside commercial booths and swap tables - See website for floor plan
- Consignment table will be available - See website for details
- Amateur Radio Exams will be given on site - See website for details
- Excellent FORUMS and Meetings - See website for meeting & forum schedule
- ARES Badging - will be available all day Saturday
- ARRL Awards Checking - Available on Saturday
- Youth Area, Program, and Special Guests - See website for details
- Main Prizes and Hourly Door Prizes will be awarded - See list on website
- Local hotel information is available on the website

Registration Information: Tickets purchased before Sept. 30 are \$6.00, and \$7.00 after Sept. 30, 2008.

Tickets are required everywhere on auditorium property-inside and outside. Age 12 and under are free.

Requests must include Self Addressed Stamped Envelope for advance tickets or pick-up at the door.

NAME/Company/Callsign_____

STREET_____

_____PH_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____Email_____

Swap Tables, \$20.00 Each QTY._____ \$_____

Entry and prize tickets (and setup passes) @ \$6.00 each QTY._____ \$_____

Make Checks Payable to PCARS Melbourne Hamfest TOTAL \$_____

Commercial booths - Contact us for size and location availability.

See more info and late updates on our PCARS website www.pcars.org Go to the PCARS HAMFEST link

E-Mail your information requests to hamfest2008@pcars.org

Hamfest Chairman: Jan Heise K4QD Home: 321-956-2482

Mail: PCARS Melbourne Hamfest

P.O. Box 1004

Melbourne, FL 32902-1004

Free Wireless Internet Access On Site



DX Newsflash

Over the past few weeks there has been speculation of an upcoming operation to Descheo Island (KP5) to take place in November. This bulletin is to provide the DX community with the actual facts on what has been going on and what will possibly happen. Several DX publications were notified about two months ago that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) had decided to allow certain amateur radio operators who have made an inquiry about operating from Descheo in the recent past an opportunity to submit a proposal (approximately 20 individuals). OPDX and others were told to NOT publish anything in fear of jeopardizing the process. As of this time, "NO ONE" has been selected to operate from KP5. The following information was provided by an "informed source" to bring everyone up-to-date and explain what events took place. There is a tentative agreement to facilitate access to the Descheo Island National Wildlife Refuge by Amateur Radio operators in conjunction with future USFWS management activities in the refuge. The plan would allow Amateur Radio activation of Descheo for up to 14 days under strict guidelines and close USFWS supervision. USFWS expects to grant a Special Use Permit (SUP) for amateur radio operations to one group selected from among large number of prior applicants. These applicants have recently been contacted by the agency and provided a number of stringent requirements that must be met. They were told that if they are still interested in operating from Descheo they had 45 days to submit a proposal. The letter was dated June 30, 2008, with an August 14th deadline. The final selection will be made based upon which proposal best satisfies USFWS requirements. The timing of this operation is still uncertain but is likely to be in the September through December 2008 time frame. The actual dates of the operation are dependent on a number of variables, but the team and Dxers should have a minimum of 30 days notice. We are not sure, but we believe as many as a dozen proposals have been submitted. Apparently, the final selection will be made by a three person panel. Continue to remain patient as the

selection process proceeds. Apparently, Dxers worldwide can look forward to the first USFWS-authorized activation of Desecheo Island in many years.



H.A.A.R.P

The Military's Mystery Machine

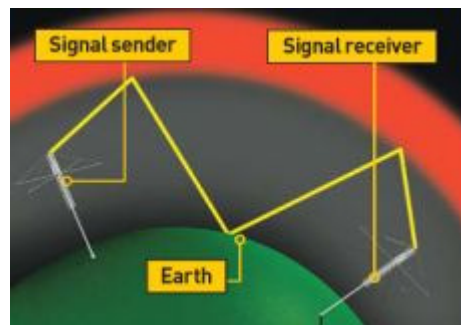
The High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program, or HAARP, has been called a missile-defense tool and a mind-control device. The truth is a bit less ominous.

If the paranoid blogosphere is to be believed, every morning a group of plasma-physics grad students wakes up at a research facility in Gakona, Alaska, 200 miles north of Anchorage, and prepares for another day of playing God. It's cold, dark as a mineshaft in winter, and the day's work does little to cheer the mood. Depending on the unpredictable agendas of military scientists, this group of technicians must shoot radio waves into the upper reaches of our atmosphere to create missile shields, eviscerate enemy satellites, set off the occasional earthquake, or control the minds of millions of people.



Northern Exposure: With HAARP, an antenna array located 200 miles north of Anchorage, Alaska, scientists study the outer atmosphere by zapping it with radio waves generated by 3,600 kilowatts of electricity. Appropriately, it has a great view of the aurora borealis. Photo by U.S. Naval Research Laboratory

The truth is, though, that the High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program, or HAARP—the 180-antenna array that became fully operational last year when the defense-systems contractor BAE finished installing transmitters—is nothing more sinister than a research station. And now, 15 years after construction on the station began, HAARP's managers are seeing what the fully powered system can do; most recently, they've begun zapping the moon with the hope of determining the composition of its soil. "It's up, it runs, it performs beautifully," says Ed Kennedy, the former HAARP program manager for the Naval Research Lab. "HAARP is a great example of a project that from start to finish stayed on schedule and on budget." HAARP's purpose is to study the ionosphere (the section of the atmosphere beginning about 50 miles up in which ultraviolet radiation temporarily strips atoms of their electrons), the magnetosphere (the region in space above the ionosphere where the Earth's magnetic field affects the behavior of charged particles) and the Van Allen radiation belts (bands of highly charged particles contained in the magnetosphere beginning some 400 miles up). Scientists are interested in the ionosphere because of its ability to affect radio signals; the Van Allen belt, because the radiation there damages satellites, and a better understanding of it could lead to ways to make satellites last longer. "It's an open plasma-physics laboratory," says Dennis Papadopoulos, a physics professor at the University of Maryland who helped conceive the idea for HAARP with the Naval Research Lab more than 30 years ago. "You test ideas and scientific theories. Then, if something's important to the Department of Defense, you apply it."



Skywave Propagation: Radio waves travel in straight lines, but the Earth isn't flat, so sending radio signals to the other side of the world is tricky. HAARP's findings could lead to ways to extend the range of radio signals by creating irregularities in the ionosphere that would bounce signals across long distances. Photo by Paul Wootton

One application government scientists are particularly interested in is turning the lower ionosphere into a tool for broadcasting radio signals or bouncing them around the curvature of the Earth. By beaming a signal ranging from 2.8 to 10 megahertz into the ionosphere and then pulsing the signal, HAARP stimulates what's called a "virtual antenna"—a radio interaction that causes the ionosphere to send a very low-frequency signal back down to Earth. The phenomenon could theoretically improve submarine

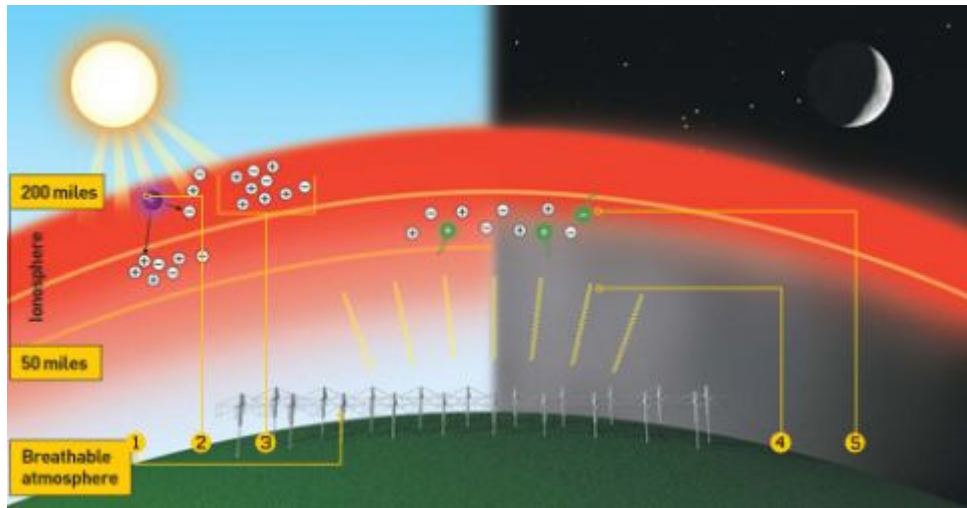
communication. Because salty, conductive seawater absorbs high-frequency radio waves, submarines currently operate with wires that reach up into shallow depths to receive usable radio signals. Low-frequency signals like the ones HAARP generates in the ionosphere could allow subs to operate at much deeper depths. "It's a real signal that comes from space as though there were an antenna up there," says Paul Kossey, HAARP program manager for the Air Force Research Laboratory's Space Vehicles Directorate. "But there's no wire doing it."

Of course, a vocal minority of HAARP-watchers have their own ideas about the purpose of the \$230-million, taxpayer-funded antenna array. For many years, HAARP's most prominent critic was Bernard Eastlund, a plasma physicist who reportedly worked for the Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars) and, later, Advanced Power Technologies Incorporated, the company originally tasked with building HAARP. Eastlund, who some believe was dismissed from the company for his extreme ideas, claimed that HAARP was built with his patents—patents for technologies that could be used to modify weather and disable satellites.

Since Eastlund's death last December, Nick Begich, son of a former Alaskan congressman and co-author of the 1995 book *Angels Don't Play This HAARP: Advances in Tesla Technology*, has led the anti-HAARP crusade. "It's not that I think it needs to be shut down," Begich says. "It needs to be monitored more closely and scrutinized. The government hasn't been up-front about the nature of these programs, and they're utilizing the system to manipulate portions of the environment without full disclosure to the public." He worries that HAARP may be capable of mind control because the waves it produces can exist at frequencies similar to those of human brain waves. Citing Eastlund's patents, Begich also worries that the facility can alter weather. More extreme skeptics, like Jerry E. Smith, author of *HAARP: The Ultimate Weapon of the Conspiracy*, suspect that HAARP was rushed into completion after the 2005 hurricane season, which included Katrina, to keep the storms from making landfall. Others say it was responsible for the destruction of the space shuttle *Columbia* in 2003.

Ask a HAARP scientist about allegations like this, and he'll either laugh or lose his temper. "This is completely uninformed," says Umran Inan, a professor of electrical engineering at Stanford University whose research group works with HAARP. "There's absolutely nothing we can do to disturb the Earth's [weather] systems. Even though the power HAARP radiates is very large, it's minuscule compared with the power of a lightning flash—and there are 50 to 100 lightning flashes every second. HAARP's intensity is very small."

"You hear these people talking about mind control, and it's just not serious," Papadopoulos says. So we don't need tinfoil hats to prevent evil government scientists from controlling our every thought? "We have difficulty measuring the signal. We do experiments all the time up there, and we don't wear hats."



Ionospheric Manipulation Made Easy: HAARP's ionospheric research instrument comprises 180 aluminum antenna towers [1] on a 40-acre plot. Together the towers beam radio waves into the ionosphere, which begins about 50 miles up. There, sunlight temporarily strips gas molecules [2] of their electrons, creating charged particles [3]. Scientists tweak HAARP's signal [4] to stimulate reactions in the lower ionosphere, causing phenomena such as radiating auroral currents, a.k.a. "virtual antennas," which send extremely low-frequency waves back to Earth. The waves can reach deep into the ocean and could improve submarine communication. At night, the absence of sunlight causes the lowest layer of the ionosphere to temporarily disappear [5]. This allows HAARP to conduct experiments that could lead to better ways to use a process called skywave propagation. Photo by Paul Wootton

Source: Popular Science Magazine
 Author and copyright: Abe Streep



Editors Ramblings

Back on the air again and I had the pleasure of checking in to the 6m AM net this past Monday evening which was great. 6M seems a bit dead now as does 2m ssb so a 20m antenna will be going up soon.

This might just be the very first Newsletter produced without the "benefit" of Microsoft software. After much discussion with your former Newsletter Editor, Mike (WD8RFL), I offloaded Microsoft Office in favor of the open source alternative called OpenOffice. To convert the document into the PDF format that you receive it in is also a function of the OpenOffice word processing program. And lastly, my e-mail client that sends the Newsletter to you is Mozilla's Thunderbird system. So part from using XP as my operating system (and that can be easily changed to a non-MS alternative), it seems true that you

can get along just fine without Microsoft! If anyone wants any info on these programs then please drop me a line via e-mail and I will be happy to help out.

At the time of writing we appear to have 36 to 48 hours before TS Fay hits us so please everyone, stay safe!

Until next month....

73

David
KG4ZLB/MOZLB





ARASWF

Newsletter



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Important update to the August 2008 Newsletter

Further to my "tongue in cheek" comment in the Newsletter concerning the geographical location of our new member, Bob, W2HI supplied me this morning with some additional information which I am happy to publish below:

73

David
KG4ZLB

In the just published August 08 Newsletter it was reported that Arthur Altarac (WA2KXE) of Merrick, New York was a new member of ARASWF, together with a notation that unless he was a seasonal visitor it was unlikely that he would be able to attend any meetings!

Actually, Art is a long-time friend of our late friend and club member Jordan Mash, and his application for ARASWF membership is his personal tribute to Jordan. He and Jordan grew up together in Long Beach, New York, and lived only about 4 blocks from one another. They first met when they were both in the same elementary school, and helped each other with their early radio products.

Although separated since those early days, Art and Jordan were able to maintain their friendship, including meeting together at Merrick, New York, and on the air. When Art heard about Jordan's health from another mutual friend from Long Beach, Jeff Beales, W4AW, he called the hospital was able to speak with both him and his mother just before Jordan's passing.

Art has gone even one step further than submitting a membership application. He has offered to make a donation for some piece of equipment that would be necessary to keep the WB2QLP repeater running, as a memorial to his friendship with Jordan. (This offer is being considered by the Board of Directors.)

Bob Graf, W2HI, Secretary