



# ARASWF

## Newsletter



Vol. MMIX No.1 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida  
January 2009

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- And again (!)
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**Next Meeting will be held on January 27<sup>th</sup> 2009 at 7.00pm (not  
7.30 - please note this time change)**

## From the President's Shack

My first "From the President's Shack" and I am saddened to have to pass on the news that Karl, N1DL, was recently in intensive care following heart surgery. He was admitted on Christmas Eve to a clinic in Naples. His wife Gitta, has requested that no one attempt to make contact with her or Karl until further notice, due to the delicate health of both of them. At the time of writing, Karl is now at home and very weak and he has a nurse visit him every day. He also faces numerous daily doctor appointments for the foreseeable future.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Karl for a speedy recovery.

73's  
Dave  
W4SFR



## Notices

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

The January membership meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, will begin at

**7:00pm**, not 7:30 pm.

This is usually the most highly attended meeting of the year, so plan to arrive early and get the seat of your choice.



## Help wanted - Radio operators!

### **GET READY FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL PEDALING FOR PATHWAYS BICYCLE BRUNCH**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25TH**

FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE!! 10, 20, 30, 62 or 100 mile route options; fully supported with rest stops and SAG vehicles; and brunch-on-the beach after the ride! We need volunteers for planning and coordination before the ride, and some other day-of support.

Our 5 rest stops are: Fifth Avenue Coffee, Bayshore Coffee Company, KJ's Restaurant (41/Lakewood), Villagio/Venetian Village, Royal Scoop.

FiveSAG wagons: TREK Bicycle, Naples Cyclery, Clint's Bicycle Shop.... possibly Big Momma's.

Above is the Naples Pathways Coalition commercial. I need 10 operators; 5 for the rest stops and 5 for the S.A.G. chase vehicles. Due to budget constraints this year, they can't promise a free t-shirt but I did work a deal to get us all fed. Stating times will vary depending on your placement but I'll be at Lowdermilk Park by 6 am.

There is still a few details to work out but we will be using the 146.670 repeater with 146.640 as back up. A mobile radio in your car will work fine and an HT if you really want to impress the ladies. Remember to bring a few good batteries.

This is a fun event and a fantastic opportunity for the ARASWF to show its support for our community. Who knows, watching all those physically fit folks may help inspire a few New Year' Resolutions!

If you are interested in participating, you can contact me via phone or email: 239-287-7871 or [ki4uat@hotmail.com](mailto:ki4uat@hotmail.com). You can also visit <http://www.naplespathways.org/> if I have not been convincing enough.

Thank you,

Tim Gibbons  
KI4UAT



## More help needed!

Naples Daily News Half Marathon

Radio Operators Needed

Sunday January 18<sup>th</sup> 6.30 - 11.00am

If you can help with this event or need more information before deciding, please contact Rodney, KI4DBO on 239-451 2382



## Meeting Minutes

As tradition dictates, the Christmas Party was held in lieu of a December Club meeting and there are no Meeting minutes to publish this time round but.....



## Board Meeting Minutes

<b>Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida</b>
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**Board of Directors Meeting held at Mel's Diner, Golden Gate, Florida, on Saturday, January 10th, 2009.**

**Present:** Dave Schaare, W4SFR – President  
Peter Gaddy, KK4PG – Past President  
David Worboys, KG4ZLB - Vice-President  
Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary  
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL - Treasurer

**Guests:** Tim Gibbons, KI4UAT  
Rodney Smith, KI4DBI

**Apologies:** Tim Wallen, KC4SSD – Technical Director  
Karl Geng, N1DL – Operations Director

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### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting called to order:**

Dave, W4SFR, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**Reading & Approval of previous minutes:**

Minutes of the previous months were dispensed with.

**Officers' Reports:**

Dave, W4SFR, reported that Karl, N1DL, is at home after quadruple heart bypass surgery. He is in guarded condition, and is not receiving visitors at this time.

**Old Business:**

Repeater changes: The Board discussed several changes to the club repeater system, as follows:

- It is felt that there is need for additional repeater sites in southern and eastern Collier County to improve the repeater coverage area, and allow hand-held "handi-talkies" to have full use of the club repeater throughout the County. An immediate additional site is available at the QTH of Tim, KC4SSD, where it is planned to erect a 100-foot tower using tower sections now in inventory. This should alleviate the need for eastern county members to use 146.52 exclusively because of poor repeater conditions there. A future site in the downtown area will eventually be considered to improve hand-held capability in the southern areas of the county.

- The WB2QLP repeater on 146.67 MHz is operating at reduced efficiency because of the poor design of the Spectrum receiver, and an 8 db drop in receive sensitivity is being experienced. In addition, numerous maintenance problems with the current repeater seem to indicate that a replacement for the Spectrum repeater is necessary at this time.
- The availability of a used, three year old, Kenwood repeater that is reported to be in excellent operating condition, will provide the solution to the 146.67 problem, and further provide a needed 4-can duplexer with cabling, power supply, hardline and antenna for the KC4SSD site. This equipment (valued in excess of \$3,500) is in possession of Karl, N1DL, who presently has the repeater on the air from his home QTH in North Naples, on 145.27MHz (-) with 67.0 PL. Peter, KK4PG, recommended that serious consideration be given to acquiring this equipment at a cost of \$1,000, plus \$200 cost for climbers to remove the hardline and antenna, or \$1,200. total. A motion was made by Bill, K2ZEL, seconded by Dave, W4SFR, that the Board recommend to the membership at the January meeting that this \$1,200. expenditure be approved by the membership to improve the club repeater capability. Motion passed on a 4-1 vote.

### **New Business:**

Meeting time: Bob, W2HI, made a motion to change the membership meeting time to 7:00 pm, with advance notice to appear in the January Newsletter to members. Unanimously approved.

Miscellaneous: Rodney, KI4DBI, asked the Board to consider three items:

- Provide (2) 2-meter "Go-boxes" for use by members and others under unusual circumstances where they are unable to use their own equipment. Such "Go-boxes" to consist of a 2-meter base station, power supply, and portable antenna. The Board requested Rodney to prepare a proposal of estimated expenses to complete this project and report back to the Board.
- Provide better contact with neighboring radio clubs, including Fort Myers and Marco Island, in the initial form of exchanging newsletters. Newsletter editor KG4ZLB will add the clubs to his mailing list upon receipt of the required information.

- Keep track of Wednesday night net attendance and the answers to the trivia questions, in the form of a scorecard that will be evaluated at the end of the year, with a prize (such as a handi-talkie) awarded to the member with the highest score. Any ties will be broken at the Christmas Party by a method not yet determined. Under consideration by the Board.

Meeting site: David, KG4ZLB, requested that an effort be made to find a new meeting site that might provide a better atmosphere for membership meetings, and be centrally located. Under consideration by the Board.

2009 Christmas Party: Dave, W4SFR, suggested that we "lock-in" a date with the VFW for the 2009 Christmas party. He will attempt to move the party back one week into December, so the party does not conflict with the Florida State Convention (Tampa Bay Hamfest) scheduled for December 5-6.

Wednesday Night Net: Peter made the suggestion that, in 2009, the Wednesday night 2-meter nets be conducted by a different ARASWF member every week. The members would take turns in conducting the net after indicating, in advance on a sign-up sheet, which Wednesday nights they would be available to conduct the net and present an appropriate "trivia" question.

Radio classes: Peter, KK4PG, reported that there appears to be a number of Collier deputies and firemen that would like to become licensed, and that we need to plan to conduct license classes soon, with subsequent exams. To be discussed at the membership meeting. In the meantime, Bill, K2ZEL, will obtain the VE records and supplies from former VE Coordinator Carolyn, AI4CZ, who is unable to continue in that post.

### **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

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



## New Members

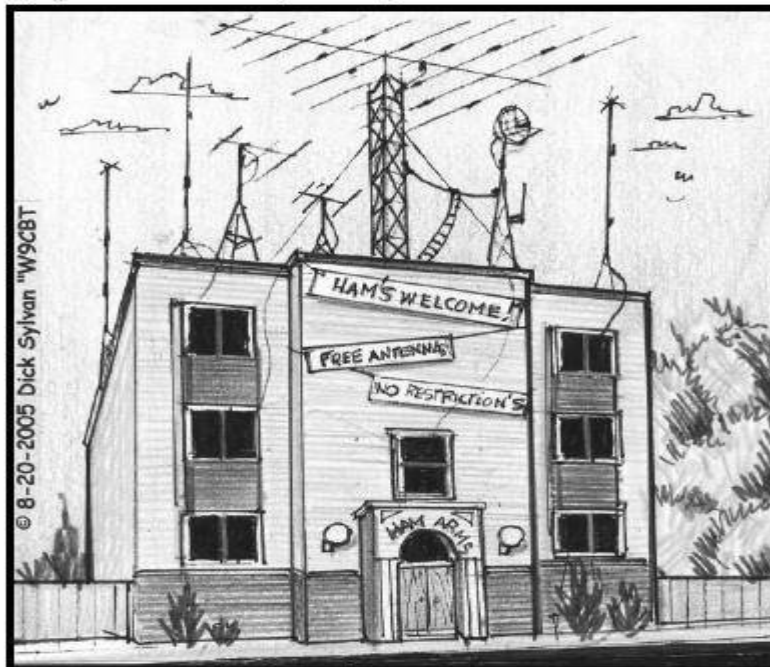
None this month.

## Trading Post

Nothing this month! (please let me know by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month if you have any items to sell, or have equipment to trade or if you want some particular piece and I will ensure that your classified makes that months Newsletter. Thanks

## Cartoon Corner

### **Apartments For Rent**



"Looking For an Apartment Where You  
Can Put Up an Antenna? — Dream On!"





## Editors Ramblings

The last few weeks have seen an unprecedented amount of activity from the International Space Station and ARISS (Amateur Radio on the ISS). For those of you that are interested in satellite work, whether or not you have an all singing, all dancing OSCAR class station, you can get involved with nothing more than a VHF/UHF FM radio and a simple 2/70 collinear or ground plane antenna. Currently the cross band repeater on the ISS is in operation and with a bit of VFO tweaking for Doppler effect, you can work any other ham that is also operating the ISS and is in the footprint. There is always the chance that one of the ISS crew will pick up the microphone and speak directly with you. There has been SSTV images beamed down recently and the digipeater has also been in operation. The current operations are in support of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ARISS and all participants, (whether you operate or just hear the ISS) are entitled to receive a commemorative certificate. See [www.amsat.org](http://www.amsat.org) for details. But hurry, these events are slated to end mid month so time is of the essence.

Till next time

73

David  
KG4ZLB

### Club Information

Meeting Time: 4th Tuesday 7:00pm 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:** W4SFR

Dave Schaare

**Vice President:** KG4ZLB

David Worboys

**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

David Worboys

<http://www.kg4zlb.com>

**Webmaster:** W2HI

Bob Graf

**Ops. Director:** Vacant

**Public Information Officer:** Vacant

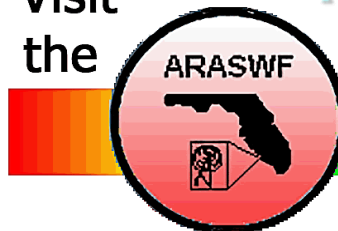
**Special Events Co-ord.** Vacant

**Awards Manager:** Vacant

**VE Liaison:** Vacant

**Social Chair:** Vacant

Visit  
the



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

**Web Site**

[www.araswf.org](http://www.araswf.org)