



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMIX No. 11 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
November 2009

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**Next Club meeting will be held November 24th, 7.00pm at the Golden Gate
Community Center as usual**

From the President's Shack

Hello from the President's shack!

The last formal meeting of the year is upon us and is especially important as it signals the annual election for the Board of Directors for the new year. Following a change in the Club's bylaws, we shall be trying to fill four Executive Officer positions and four Director positions. Hopefully by now you will have been canvassed by the Nominating Committee so I would urge you all to attend this important meeting and have your vote count. I hope to see you all there!

73's for now!

Dave

W4SFR

Meeting Minutes

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Monthly Business Meeting held at the Golden Gate Community Center, Golden Gate, Florida, on Tuesday, October 27th, 2009

Directors Present: David Schaare, W4SFR – President
David Worboys, KG4ZLB – Vice President
Peter Gaddy, KK4PG – Past President
Bob Graf, W2HI – Secretary
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL – Treasurer
Tim Wallen, KC4SSD – Technical Director
Karl Geng, N1DL – Emergency Comm. Director

Apologies:

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order:

There being a quorum present with 24 members (including 7 directors) in attendance, Dave, W4SFR, called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 of the August meeting was dispensed with since they were published previously in the Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill, K2ZEL, presented a Treasurer's Report as of October 27th, 2009, summarized as follows:

Beginning Balance, 1/01/2009	\$ 4,268.90
Income, Year-to-date	\$ 2,313.50
Disbursements, Year-to-date	\$ <u>2,981.62</u>
Ending Balance, 10/27/2009	\$ 3,600.78

Officers' Reports:

Examinations: Dave W4SFR reported that 27 exams were given recently on Marco Island, with 25 passing, including several upgrades

Club Activities: Peter KK4PG solicited ideas from the membership that would stimulate members' interest in getting involved with club activities, and which might involve seasonal members who are returning from up north. One idea, by Karl N1DL, would involve setting up schedules with other repeaters on echo link.

Also a special event session, such as setting up at Oil Well Park to commemorate Florida's first oil well. Karl then offered a third item for consideration – setting up somewhere and offering contacts thru MARS with US servicemen and servicewomen overseas. Bob WØOB suggested that we consider an event in conjunction with "Old Florida Days" – an annual event that is held at the Collier Museum. John NSØI suggested we investigate an event at the Swamp Buggy Races held at Naples Sports Park.

Tim N4PIX, Tim KC4SSD and George AA4GT will investigate the possibilities of an event at oil well park, possibly to be held sometime in March.

Peter KK4PG then announced he will organize a DXpedition to Keywaydin Island, tentatively scheduled for Sunday January 23rd. He will report back about this at the November meeting.

Committee Reports:

Old Business:

D-Star Repeater: Peter KK4PG reported he received a communication from Collier EOC which indicated that the D-Star repeater is down because of prior electrical damage, and that the repeater is not under the control of EOC, but rather Collier IT (Information Technology), which effectively puts EOC out of any effort to get it back on the air. _

Pennsylvania QSO Party: George AA4GT submitted a report about the club's activities in the Pennsylvania QSO Party on October 11 and 12. Twelve members of the club participated, and the radios were operated by George AA4GT, Tim N4PIX, AD K4ADR and Dave W4SFR. There were 65 total QSOs, including 30 QSO's on 20m and 35 QSO's on 40m, using the special call sign W4F. 32 counties were contacted, and the total final score + bonus points was 2480.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Dave W4SFR asked for volunteers to form the nominating committee for next year. When no one volunteered, he appointed Tim N4PIX, David KG4ZLB and Tim KC4SSD to form the committee and report back to the membership at the November meeting.

50/50:

The 50/50 raffle was won by AD, K4ADR.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Dave W4SFR, seconded by Bruce K9PWQ, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Bob Graf, W2HI
Secretary

2010 Board of Directors Nominations

As Dave mentioned in his opening address, the time is once again upon us to consider who we would like to have represent us on the Board for the upcoming year.

All Members are free to nominate whoever they wish but under the Club's by-laws it is a requirement that the nominating member is present at the November meeting to offer the nomination. We are unable to accept "proxy" nominations and for that matter, proxy voting so the November meeting is the only chance where you can make your wishes, and therefore your vote, count.

To echo Dave's address, please try and ensure that you attend the upcoming meeting and cast your vote!

Photo's



Here is very relaxed looking Karl (N1DL) at the microphone during the Club's PA QSO Party activation on the weekend of October 10/11.



Two images captured by Mission Specialist Sunita Williams who flew to the ISS aboard Shuttle mission STS 116 from an album entitled "Pictures of Earth". If you would like to see the rest of these then please consider joining the ARASWF Yahoo Group where these images, plus a host of other stuff, is located. If you have lost the original Yahoo invitation to join then click the direct link [here!](#)

News

Dot, dot, dot, cash, cash, cash, Estate Agent (Realtor) signals Marconi sale

"It was the Irish home of a wireless pioneer and has now gone on the market for £400,000."

Italian inventor **Guglielmo Marconi** carried out early radio transmission experiments to and from Rathlin Island from Ballycastle in 1898.



(Guglielmo Marconi lived in the cottage in 1898)

His house, known as Marconi's cottage, sits on the rocks of the North Antrim coast two miles outside Ballycastle.



(There has already been a lot of interest in the cottage, sellers say)

The experiments were part of the development of wireless telegraphy which would transform communications.

Belfast-based selling agent BTWCairns described the cottage as sitting on a "secluded 18 acre site with breathtaking sea views and surrounded by rural countryside".

Just the spot for an inventor to quietly tinker with electromagnetic waves.

The site has full planning consent for a replacement home of 2,500 sq ft to be constructed using natural materials including stone and slate with extensive glazing on to take advantage of the sea views.

Simon Brien from the estate agents said that this was because after being unoccupied for four years the property was a bit of a fixer-upper.

"It's a traditional cottage which has been extended over the years and is in a poor state of repair, although it could be repaired and restored," he said.

"What we have planning approval for is a rebuild along traditional lines for the land-facing side with permission for more glazing on the seaward side to get those magnificent views out to sea."

He said that there had been a lot of interest in the property just one day after going on the market and they expected interest from as far afield as the United States of America.



(An artist's impression of how the cottage could look if rebuilt)

Read, then decide!

This is the latest attack upon amateur radio. Yet another 'environmentalist' group attacking ham radio DIRECTLY.

From the "Earth-Liberation-Front" organization:

<http://earth-liberation-front.org/>

Ham Radio Operators a danger to our children...

What characteristic is shared by an electric blanket, a power line, and a broadcast tower? All three emit electromagnetic radiation.

These invisible electromagnetic fields are known as EMFs. They are generated by currents running through electric wires. Since they are not powerful and destructive like nuclear or X-ray radiation, they were once thought to be harmless. However, studies have suggested that people exposed to them chronically run a higher risk of certain health problems, including miscarriages, learning disabilities, and cancer.

Did you know that Ham Radio Operators run 1500 watts of power in your neighborhood exposing your family to dangerous radiation?

Is there a ham radio operator in your neighborhood? You can find out easily by a large antenna in your neighbor yards and doing a search for hams by zip code at <http://www.qrz.com/db/> The reason you need to search for hams in your neighborhood is because they can run their 1500 watt transmitters with a small wire dipole and vertical antennas hidden in trees and flag poles. Unlike CB radio operators who are limited to a very low 4 watt transmitters in your neighborhood hams can do more damage to your children with there 1500 watt transmitters. How much power does your local AM radio station run? On average they only run 1000 watts, but the transmitting antennas are usually in remote unpopulated areas. Ham radio operators run there high powered transmitters right in your neighborhood.

How to put a stop to ham radio operators from polluting your neighborhood:

1. Write your congressman about protecting your children from harmful EMF.
2. Demand that the FCC certify every ham radio operator in your area comply with RF exposure regulations by writing the FCC.
<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmaCmpl.html>
3. Contact your local city council and mayor to lobby to change Federal law regarding using high powered transmitters in your neighborhood.
4. If you live in a neighborhood with a covenant then contact the HOA and demand that it be changed to exclude licensed ham radio operators from living in the neighborhood, it is not enough to ban large antennas since the ham radio operator will put up a small wire antenna or an antenna in their attic to transmit up to 1500 watts of power.
5. If you find out a ham is in your neighborhood let your neighbors know so they can contact your city council and congress representative to change the law to mandate a lower power usage of ham radio around your family.
6. Ham radio operators lower your property values with there large antennas and the increasing knowledge that high power transmitters effect every family in the neighborhood with harmful EMF radiation.

<http://earth-liberation-front.org/>

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: KC4SSD

Tim Wallen

Emergency Comm. Director: N1DL

Karl Geng

Newsletter Editor: KG4ZLB

David Worboys

<http://www.kg4zlb.com>

Webmaster: W2HI

Bob Graf

VE Liaison: KG4ZLB

David Worboys

Ops. Director: Vacant

Public Information Officer: Vacant

Special Events Co-ord. Vacant

Awards Manager: Vacant

Social Chair: Vacant

Visit
the



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

Web Site

www.araswf.org