



# ARASWF

## Newsletter



Vol. MMIX No. 9 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida  
September 2009

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**Next Club meeting will be held September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7.00pm at the Golden Gate  
Community Center as usual**

## From the President's Shack

Hello from the President's shack!

Without the wish to tempt fate, it is great to say that at the time of writing we have had no Hurricane issues so far this season or indeed any tropic related weather to report except for the usual summer rains.

Not that this means that we should drop our guard! The Hurricane season still has some way to go and with that in mind I would ask that you check your radio's, replace batteries where needed and keep vigilant during this time.

We have a brand new EOC in Collier County now; lets hope we don't have it activated just yet.

73's for now!

Dave

W4SFR

## New Members

We would like to welcome Uli Altvater (KJ4IBM), David Sheppard (KJ4NKJ) & John Baer (WF4E) to membership of the Club this month.

Welcome!

## Notice # 1

Come on, members...

It's time to include a photo of your home station, together with a brief description of your station and equipment, in the "Members Gallery" that is the first choice on the "Photos" page of the ARASWF web site - [www.araswf.org](http://www.araswf.org).

So far we have only 6 members whose stations are shown in the "Members Gallery", and we need all of you to be there.

Just take a photo of your station (hopefully with you included, but not necessary) with your digital camera, then prepare a few words about your station, and send them both to [webmaster@araswf.org](mailto:webmaster@araswf.org)

Or, if you don't have a digital camera, then send a scan or copy of a photo print instead - we'll do the rest.

It's easy, and it's fun, so no more excuses - send your photo and station info today.

So do what Uncle Webmaster says - he's looking forward to being able to publish your photo and write-up soon.



**I WANT YOU**

**TO SEND A PHOTO OF  
YOUR HOME STATION  
AND A BRIEF WRITE-  
UP ABOUT IT FOR  
INCLUSION IN THE  
“MEMBERS GALLERY”  
ON THE ARASWF  
WEB SITE.**

**SEND YOUR PHOTO  
AND WRITE-UP TO:  
WEBMASTER @  
ARASWF.ORG**

## Notice # 2

Many congratulations to Don Polly (KG4BVT) who passed the Amateur Extra exam on August 13, 2009 at the Ft. Myers Amateur Radio Club - well done Don !

## AM on 80m

There is AM ACTION in Florida. The Florida AM Group holds a regular roundtable style net each Sunday morning on 3675kc (3.675mhz). All are invited to join this amplitude modulated group of amateurs whose focus is in restoring and using vintage commercial tube style radios , as well as vintage military gear. The net is called at 7:30am local time and usually lasts till about 9. There are pre net operations starting about 6:30 if you are an early bird. The group holds weekly QSOs on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 6:30 till 8:00pm on 3650 to 3660.

## Meeting Minutes

### **Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida**

**Regular Monthly Business Meeting held at the Golden Gate Community Center, Golden Gate, Florida, on Tuesday, August 25th, 2009**

**Directors Present:** David Schaare, W4SFR – President  
David Worboys , KG4ZLB – Vice President  
Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary  
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL – Treasurer

**Apologies:** Peter Gaddy, KK4PG – Past President  
Tim Wallen, KC4SSD – Technical Director

Karl Geng, N1DL – Emergency Communications Director

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## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **Meeting Called To Order:**

There being a quorum present with 10 members (including 4 directors) and one guest in attendance in attendance, Dave, W4SFR, called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

### **Introductions:**

All attendees introduced themselves by name and call for the benefit of the members and guests in attendance. Guest in attendance was Ken Silver KJ4JPO.

### **Reading & Approval of Previous Minutes:**

Reading of the Minutes was dispensed with since they were posted in the club Newsletter previously distributed to the members.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Bill, K2ZEL, presented a Treasurer's Report as of August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009, summarized as follows:

Beginning Balance	\$ 3,078.56
Income (Dues, 50/50)	\$ 77.00
Disbursements (Repeater Pre-Amp)	\$ 106.05
Ending Balance	\$ 3,049.51

### **Officers' Reports:**

ARASWF Bylaws: Bob W2HI, summarized the proposed changes to the Bylaws that were previously sent to the members. A motion to approve the proposed changes was made by Bob W2HI, seconded by George AA4GT, and unanimously approved by the members.

### **Committee Reports:**

### **Old Business:**

### **New Business:**

EOC Tour: Bill K2ZEL gave a report on the recent visit to the Collier County EOC, and displayed photos taken during that visit..

**Special Feature:**

There was no special feature this month.

**50/50:**

There was no 50/50 raffle this month because of the small number of members in attendance.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Dave W4SFR at 7:45 pm.

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

**Trading Post**

**For Sale**

**Icom-746** New relays in the tuner, new Mod so the screen does not go black. Has filters for CW and SSB. It was used on Field Day.

**\$700.00**

**Ameritron 811 Amp**

**\$400.00**

Buy both for **\$1000.00**

George Tomlinson AA4GT

[aa4gt@comcast.net](mailto:aa4gt@comcast.net)

239-774-1759

239-272-1759 Cell

## For Sale

**Kenwood TM-271A 2M FM radio**

**\$90.00**

Contact Jeff, NJ2F on 146.520 or [nj2f@arrl.net](mailto:nj2f@arrl.net)



## And Finally.....(nearly) !

### South African pigeon 'faster than broadband'

Broadband promised to unite the world with super-fast data delivery - but in South Africa it seems the web is still no faster than a humble pigeon.

A Durban IT company pitted an 11-month-old bird armed with a 4GB memory stick against the ADSL service from the country's biggest web firm, Telkom.



Winston the pigeon took two hours to carry the data 60 miles - in the same time the ADSL had sent 4% of the data.

Telkom said it was not responsible for the firm's slow internet speeds.

The idea for the race came when a member of staff at Unlimited IT complained about the speed of data transmission on ADSL.

He said it would be faster by carrier pigeon.

"We renoun ourselves on being innovative, so we decided to test that statement," Unlimited's Kevin Rolfe told the Beeld newspaper.

'No cats allowed'

Winston took off from Unlimited IT's call centre in the town of Howick to deliver the memory stick to the firm's office in Durban.

According to Winston's website there were strict rules in place to ensure he had no unfair advantage.

They included "no cats allowed" and "birdseed must not have any performance-enhancing seeds within".

The firm said Winston took one hour and eight minutes to fly between the offices, and the data took another hour to upload on to their system.

Mr Rolfe said the ADSL transmission of the same data size was about 4% complete in the same time.

Hundreds of South Africans followed the race on social networking sites Facebook and Twitter.

"Winston is over the moon," Mr Rolfe said.

"He is happy to be back at the office and is now just chilling with his friends."

Meanwhile Telkom said it could not be blamed for slow broadband services at the Durban-

based company.

"Several recommendations have, in the past, been made to the customer but none of these have, to date, been accepted," Telkom's Troy Hector told South Africa's Sapa news agency in an e-mail.

South Africa is one of the countries hoping to benefit from three new fibre optic cables being laid around the African continent to improve internet connections.

## And Finally.....(definitely) !

A bit of history.

Many amateurs already know that 73 is from what is known as the Phillips Code, a series of numeric messages conceived for the purpose of cutting down transmission time on the old land telegraph systems when sending text that is basically the same. In the April 1935 issue of QST on page 60 there is a short article on the origin of 73. This article was a summation of another article that appeared in the December 1934 Bulletin from the Navy Department Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

It appears from a research of telegraph histories that in 1859 the telegraph people held a convention, and one of its features was a discussion as to the saving of 'line time'. A committee was appointed to devise a code to reduce standard expressions to symbols or figures. This committee worked out a figure code, from figure 1 to 92. Most of these figure symbols became obsolescent, but a few remain to this date, such as 4, which means "Where shall I go ahead?". Figure 9 means 'wire', the wire chief being on the wire and that everyone should close their keys. Symbol 13 means 'I don't understand'; 22 is 'love and a kiss'; 30 means 'good night' or 'the end'. The symbol most often used now is 73, which means 'my compliments' and 92 is for the word 'deliver.' The other figures in between the forgoing have fallen into almost complete disuse.

One of the chief telegraphers of the Navy Department of Communications, a J.L Bishop, quoted from memory the signals that were in effect in 1905:

- 1      Wait a minute
- 4      Where shall I start in message?
- 5      Have you anything for me?

9	Attention or clear the wire
13	I do not understand
22	Love and kisses
25	Busy on another circuit
30	Finished, the end-used mainly by press telegraphers
73	My compliments, or Best Regards
92	Deliver

Today, 22 has become 88 (love and kisses). 30 is still used in the newspaper and magazine business to indicate the end of a feature, story, or column.

And, of course, 73 is still used by amateur radio operators to mean best regards.

Making any of these numbers plural (73's, 88's, etc) is incorrect since they are already plural. 73's would mean best "*regardses*" and 88's would mean love and "*kissesese*."

Those make no sense.

### 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:** 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

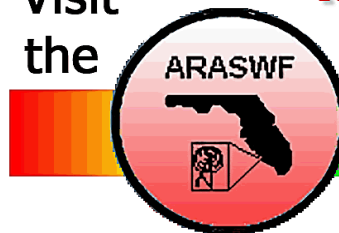
**Public Information Officer:** Vacant

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