



# ARASWF

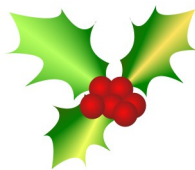
## Newsletter



Vol. MMIX No. 12 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida  
December 2009

### *In This Issue:*

- From the Presidents Shack - *Dave (W4SFR)*
- Membership Meeting minutes - *David (KG4ZLB)*
- New Members - *Bob (W2HI)*
- Christmas Party pictures - *Bill (K2ZEL)*
- Solar Cycle 24...finally! - *George (AA4GT)*
- Trading Post
- 160m mobile! - *George (AA4GT)*



**Next Club meeting will be held January 26<sup>th</sup> 2010, 7.00pm at the Golden Gate  
Community Center as usual**

## From the President's Shack

Hello from the President's shack!

Following on from the successful Christmas Party it only remains for me to wish everyone the compliments of the Season. Early in the New Year year we have lined up a program of events for the Club and I hope that as many of you as possible can come out and join us in support of these events.

Until the January meeting, Merry Christmas everyone and a Happy New Year.

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, November 24th, 2009**

**Directors Present:**

David Schaare, W4SFR – President  
David Worboys , KG4ZLB – Vice President  
Peter Gaddy, KK4PG – Past President  
Karl Geng, N1DL – Emergency Comm. Director

**Apologies:**

Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary  
G. William Reynolds, K2ZEL – Treasurer  
Tim Wallen, KC4SSD – Technical Director

---

## **MEETING MINUTES**

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

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W4SFR, at 7:10 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.

### **Club Activities:**

Peter KK4PG advised the meeting that he would be circulating a sign up sheet for the Club's Christmas Party which would be held on December 12<sup>th</sup> at the VFW (the same venue as last year). Tickets were priced at a very reasonable \$17 per person.

Additionally Peter circulated sign up sheets for the Keewaydin Island DX expedition (date likely to be January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2010) and the Oil Well Road Special Event station tentatively scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Larry, K8SRH advised that the previous weeks Tuesday night net had been all set to include an Echolink conference with a club in Kalamazoo, MI. Unfortunately the echo-link connection/repeater in MI had failed at the last minute so this planned activity had not gone ahead.

### **New Business:**

#### **Nominating Committee:**

David, KG4ZLB on behalf of the nominating committee presented to the Meeting a list of proposed Member's who had indicated a willingness to serve on the Board of Directors for the 2010 term.

In the absence of further nominations from the floor and after a formal vote, the following Members were elected with effect from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.

**President:** Dave (W4SFR)

**VP:** David (KG4ZLB)

**Treasurer:** Tim (KC4SSD)

**Secretary:** Bob (W2HI)

**Director:** Peter (KK4PG)

**Director:** George (AA4GT)

**Director:** Karl (N1DL)

**Director:** Tim (N4PIX)

### **50/50:**

The 50/50 raffle was won by Carl, WA9ZIF.

### **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

**David Worboys, KG4ZLB  
(Temporary) Secretary**

### **New Members**

Please join us in welcoming two new members to the Club starting in 2010; Kim Wells (K3OCM) and Daniel Kamm (K9JPB)

Welcome both!

## Christmas Party pictures



## Solar Cycle 24...finally!

Posted Wednesday December 16, 2009 at 1400 UTC

Sunspot group #11035 near N30W13 has grown into the largest (seven times larger than the Earth) and most magnetically complex (beta-gamma) sunspot group of solar cycle 24. At 0102 UTC the sunspot group released a small C5.3 solar flare, the largest solar flare of solar cycle 24. More small C class solar flares are possible, with a chance for an isolated medium size M class solar flare.

#11035 also produced the first partially geoeffective (Earth facing) coronal mass ejection (CME) of solar cycle 24. The CME will arrive at Earth in a approximately two days and could spark a geomagnetic storm and visible aurora. Another geoeffective CME is possible, with an associated sudden ionosphere disturbance (SID) and shortwave fadeout (SWF).

The sunspot count is 38 which is the highest of solar cycle 24. The solar flux index is 82 which is tied for the highest SFI of solar Cycle 24.

With the increased sunspot count we should see improved propagation conditions on 15 and 12 meters.

## Trading Post

### **For Sale:**

Selling on behalf of Walt, (AI2K)

**Yeasu FT 990** with built in power supply.

Walt is looking for the Mic and manual.

Asking \$800 obo

**Daiwa ON 720B SWR meter**, cross needle, large screen

1.8 to 150 MHz

asking \$50 obo

**Tenma 72-420 power supply**, 3 amps, nice lab model

asking \$80 obo

**Tenma 72-410 digital multimeter**, bench model

asking \$95 obo



I have pictures on picasaweb; go to [picasaweb.google.com/arminhachmer](http://picasaweb.google.com/arminhachmer)

All items look in excellent condition but will need to be fired up and tested.  
Items are located just off St. Andrews, on Muirfield Circle.

Call me or email  
239-774-6146  
[arminhachmer@gmail.com](mailto:arminhachmer@gmail.com)

Armin VA3YB

### 160m mobile!

Here are a couple of pictures from George (AA4GT) showing his completely "stealth" antenna farm at his QTH - I mean no-one would ever know that a ham lived there, would they?

Seriously though, George mentioned at the last club meeting about a new antenna that he had heard of that was capable of top band but without the need for a 10 acre field to put it in and could be used mobile!. He promised to find out about it and let us know. The result of his investigation is the JDC 160M antenna and judging by the photographs, George has purchased one himself.





## Product Information

### 160 Meters Antenna

This antenna will handle the full legal limit of 1500 watts. It can be used for **Mobile** or **Fixed** operations. There are a variety of ways to mount this antenna for use. They easily fit any standard ball mount or quick disconnect. Any tuner will tweak it although we **WILL** tune it to any frequency you need.

- Weight: Approximately 5 Pounds (2.268 kg)
- Length: Approximately 55 Inches including stinger (139.7 cm) This varies by tuned frequency.

Priced at \$80

See George for any further information.



**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)