



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMIX No. 8 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
August 2009

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- And finally.....!

**Next Club meeting will be held August 25th, 7.00pm at the Golden Gate
Community Center as usual**

From the President's Shack

Hello from the President's shack!

At the time of writing the period of calm weather in the Atlantic seems to have come to an end and a couple of depressions and possibly the beginnings of tropical cyclones are forming. With that in mind, please see the article on Skywarn in this issue of the Newsletter and think about volunteering for this very worthwhile program.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the next meeting and in the meantime, keep your eyes on the WX and keep safe!

73's for now!

Dave

W4SFR

New Members

Please join me in welcoming Don Polly (KG4BVT) of Naples and Gary Lee (K8YMN) of Bonita Springs to the Club!

Notice # 1

ATTENTION ALL ARASWF MEMBERS

Notice is given herewith of proposed changes to the ARASWF Bylaws. These changes were reviewed by the Board of Directors at their meeting on July 28, 2009, at which time the Board authorized presenting the proposed changes to the ARASWF membership for comment and approval.

The current Bylaws require that notice of proposed changes be submitted to the membership at least 10 days prior to the meeting at which a vote will be taken. It is anticipated that a vote to approve or disapprove the proposed changes will take place at the August membership meeting, on August 25, 2009. All members are urged to attend this meeting and cast their vote, since there is no provision for absentee voting - only members present at the meeting and eligible to vote may approve or disapprove these changes.

The proposed changes to the Bylaws can be summarized as follows:

1. ARTICLE 2 - DUES is revised to clarify that only new members are entitled to the half-year discount in dues if paid after July 1st, 2009. Previous members who lapsed and are now returning to membership are not to be considered "new" members, and thus are not entitled to the discount.
2. ARTICLE 3 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS is revised to provide several changes:
 - The board of Directors is renamed the Executive Board
 - All members of the Executive Board will be elected members - none will be appointed members unless they are appointed mid-term by the Board to fill a vacancy on the Executive Board
 - In addition to voting for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer at the November membership meeting, up to 4 Directors will also be nominated and voted upon. Thus, the Executive Board will consist of the 4 Officers and up to 4 Directors, and the immediate Past President.
3. OTHER ARTICLES are revised for editorial purposes, mainly to indicate that the Board of Directors will now be the Executive Board.

The actual proposed changes are indicated below, with the principal changes underlined. They can be compared with the current Bylaws which are posted on line at the club website www.araswf.org .

Respectfully,

Bob Graf, W2HI

Secretary

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE

**BYLAWS OF THE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC.**

August, 2009

PREAMBLE

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”.

ARTICLE 1 - MEMBERSHIP

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”

ARTICLE 2 - DUES

Revised Article 2)

Section 1: Annual membership dues are \$25.00 US (twenty-five dollars) per year for ARASWF active members, payable on or before the regular membership meeting in January of each year.

Section 2: If dues are not received by April 1 in any year, the member shall be removed from the membership rolls.

Section 3: The annual membership dues of any member in financial hardship or extenuating circumstances may be waived in whole or in part by the Board of Directors. This waiver shall expire at the end of the membership year, and may be granted in the same fashion for additional years on a year by year basis.

Section 4: The fiscal year for the ARASWF is the calendar year. Any new member who joins the ARASWF after July 1st of each year will be required to pay only one-half the annual dues in effect for the respective fiscal year. “New member” is defined as someone who was not previously a member of ARASWF.

Section 5: *Past, non-current, members may be reinstated simply by paying the current full year's dues. No member who has been expelled shall be entitled to reinstatement in this manner.*

Section 6: Any change in annual membership dues must be approved by a majority vote of Directors present at a duly held Executive Board meeting and a subsequent majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote at a duly held membership business meeting.

ARTICLE 3 – EXECUTIVE BOARD

(Revised Article 3)

Section 1: The affairs of the ARASWF shall be administered by an EXECUTIVE BOARD, consisting of up to nine active or family members of ARASWF, all of whom shall be elected by the membership as hereinafter described. The Executive Board shall consist of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Immediate Past President
- Up to 4 Directors

The positions of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined into a single office

Section 2: All members of the Executive Board must be natural persons who are 18 years of age or older, and who are active or family members in good standing, and who shall have been members for at least one year preceding election or appointment to the Executive Board. Members of the Executive Board need not be residents of the state of Florida. There shall be no maximum age limit established.

Section 3: The number of Directors may be increased or decreased by a two thirds vote of the members present and eligible to vote at a duly held ARASWF business meeting.

Section 4: Members of the Executive Board shall have a term of office from January 1 to December 31 of the respective calendar year. No decrease of the number of directors shall shorten the term of any incumbent director.

Section 5: If the full complement of four officers and four directors is not voted into office at the November meeting, and there exists a vacancy or vacancies on the Executive Board during the normal term of office, the Executive Board may fill the vacancy or vacancies by a majority vote of the members of the Executive Board present at a regular or special Executive Board meeting.

Section 6: An Officer or Director may resign at any time by delivering written notice to the Executive Board or to the President. A resignation is effective when notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later date. If a resignation is made effective at a later date, the Executive Board may fill the pending vacancy before the effective date if the Executive Board provides that the successor does not take office until the effective date.

Section 7: Each member of the Executive Board shall be entitled to one vote at Executive Board meetings.

Section 8: If deemed necessary by the President or any other two Officers or Directors acting in the absence of the President, an Executive Board meeting may be conducted by radio on any amateur radio frequency or other mode of electronic communication or via the U. S. mail.

Section 9: The Executive Board shall be responsible for:

- Assuring liability and equipment insurance coverage (if available)
- Maintaining ARRL affiliation
- Acting as officers of the ARASWF
- Designating an appropriately licensed member as Club Licensee
- Providing, planning and policy recommendations to the membership for approval and/or implementation

Section 10: Except as herein specifically provided, the decisions of the Executive Board shall be deemed final. Such decisions are subject to an appeal to the club in the form of a motion to appeal by a member or members. Two thirds of the members present and eligible to vote at a duly held ARASWF business meeting shall be necessary to reverse the Executive Board's decision.

Section 11: The Executive Board shall reconsider any of its decisions by motion of any board member.

ARTICLE 4 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

(Change Title - Revised Article 4 - Section 1)

Section 1: Each year at the regular monthly membership business meeting for October, the President will name a nominating committee, who shall place in nomination qualified candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and up to four Directors.

ARTICLE 5 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”.

(Renumbered & Revised Section 5)

Section 5: It shall be the duty of the Directors, in conjunction with the club Officers, to determine the club policies and to pass upon all issues concerning the welfare of the club, to implement motions passed by the general membership, and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of Director, including, but not limited to, serving as committee chairpersons when requested to do so by the president. Also, it shall be the duty of the Directors, in conjunction with club Officers, to protect the assets of the corporation, to maintain inventories of all equipment, to make available to all qualified members short-term use of ARSWF test equipment, to examine and accept equipment donated to ARASWF, and to assure that the installation and operation of ARASWF equipment is in compliance with the rules and regulations of the FCC.

(Re-numbered Section 6)

Section 6: It shall be the duty of the Immediate Past President to provide continuity and guidance to the Executive Board as a member of such board, and to preside at regular monthly membership meetings of the ARASWF in the absence of both the President and Vice President.

ARTICLE 6 – FINANCES

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”.

ARTICLE 7 - MEETINGS

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”.

ARTICLE 8 – ORDER OF BUSINESS

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”.

ARTICLE 9 – AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF BYLAWS

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”.

ARTICLE 10 – MISCELLANEOUS

Change all mention of “Board of Directors” to “Executive Board”.

Notice # 2

Please also join me in wishing our very own George (AA4GT) a belated happy birthday. On August 1st, George turned 76 - congrats! The pictures show George and what I assume is his birthday present, an Icom 756ProIII.



(Check the “Trading Post” section (below) for some of the items that George is now having to offload to make room for the new radio :))

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 28th, 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

Apologies: Karl Geng, N1DL – Emergency Communications Director

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order:

There being a quorum present with 13 members (including 6 directors) in attendance, Dave, W4SFR, called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 was dispensed with since there was no membership meeting in June because of Field Day.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill, K2ZEL, presented a Treasurer's Report as of July 28th, 2009, summarized as follows:

Beginning Balance, 1/1/2009	\$ 4,268.90
Income, Year-to-date	\$ 2,126.50
Disbursements, Year-to-date	<u>\$ 2,816.42</u>
Ending Balance, 7/29/2009	\$ 3,578.98

Officers' Reports:

Field Day: Peter, KK4PG, reported his intention of contacting Jeff Beales, WA4AW, about the possibility of a second Field Day activity sometime in the Fall or Winter that would enable our part-time residents the opportunity to participate locally, and to have an alternative to the oppressive heat and mosquitoes that inevitably are present here in June.

Field Day 2010: George AA4GT who was chairman of Field Day activities in 2009 will be away during next year's Field Day, leaving the position of chairman vacant. A motion by Peter KK4PG, seconded by Tim KC4SSD, to offer the chairmanship of Field Day 2010 to Jeff NJ2F was unanimously approved (in his absence).

New 10-meter Net: Peter KK4PG announced that he has had discussions with Jeff NJ2F about the possibility of starting a 10-meter net to be conducted right after the Monday night 6-meter net. Frequency would fall between 28.3 – 28.5MHZ (possibly 28.345MHZ) to allow those with a Technician license to participate. More about this to follow.

DXpedition: Peter KK4PG discussed various ways to encourage greater member participation in club activities, and suggested that we resume our annual DXpedition which, in the past, was to Keywayden Island. Such DXpedition might possibly be held in the winter months, November or January, to avoid the heat of summer. More about this to follow.

Missing Headset: Peter KK4PG announced that a headset belonging to Fred KF4MJJ and used at Field Day 2009 is missing, and it may be that someone took it home by mistake. Fred is asking all members who participated in Field Day to look at the equipment they brought home from the Field Day site to see if Fred's headset was mistakenly included. Anyone finding the headset please contact Fred, or any of the club officers to arrange for return.

ARASWF Bylaws: Bob W2HI announced that the Board has approved several changes to the club Bylaws that will be submitted to the membership for comment and approval. These changes include:

- Changes to the Dues Article specifying that only new members who were not previous members are entitled to a 50% discount in the annual dues if membership is active on or after July 1st.
- Changes to the makeup of the Board of Directors, to be renamed the "Executive Board" and to include the immediate past-president, 4 officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) and up to 4 Directors, all

of whom will be elected by the membership at the November meeting. Thus the Board will have only elected members, and not include members who have been appointed. The only exception would be in the event there are unfulfilled positions, either Officer or Director, in which instance the Board could appoint a member to fill the position for remainder of the unexpired term, in accordance with the existing Bylaws.

Committee Reports:

Field Day 2009 results: Bill K2ZEL announced the results of our Field Day activities this year submitted to ARRL, summarized as follows:

Claimed Points:	2,444	CW Contacts:	88
Bonus Points:	<u>890</u>	Add'l Contacts:	11
Total Points:	3,334	Phone Contacts:	<u>1,024</u>
		Total Contacts:	1,123

Old Business:

License Classes: Responding to inquiry by Tim KC4SSD about when we might begin license classes, Peter KK4PG announced his intention to contact the Collier County Sheriff and Naples Police and Fire Chiefs to determine if there are any members of those organizations who are interested in taking a licensing class with the intention of testing to become licensed. Several had previously indicated their interest in such classes, and it needs to be determined if that interest still exists. Also, there was some discussion about the availability of text books and material that could be made available to those taking the course. More about this to follow.

D-Star Repeater: Fred KF4MJJ announced that the VHF D-Star repeater owned by Collier County should be back on the air by the end of the month. _

New Business:

EOC Tour: Tim KC4SSD announced that Collier County Commissioner Jim Coletta has arranged for ARASWF members to tour the new EOC facility on Thursday, August 13th, at 4:30pm. Members are encouraged to indicate their intention to participate in the tour by the end of next week, so Tim can give the EOC people a count of how many members will be taking the tour. David KG4ZLB will send out an email within the next few days to all members, asking interested members to contact TIM KC4SSD ASAP.

Tuesday Traffic Net: Harry KD4JMV discussed the problems he is having with his Tuesday evening net. It was pointed out by Bob W2HI that his net is a personal one, and not associated with or endorsed by ARASWF. Thus the club will not get involved with any conflicts he is experiencing.

Special Feature:

There was no special feature this month.

50/50:

The 50/50 raffle was won by David, KG4ZLB, who generously contributed his winnings back to the club treasury. Many thanks, David!

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Dave W4SFR at 8:00 pm.

Bob Graf, W2HI
Secretary

SKYWARN Nets



SKYWARN Nets

By : Alex Ihrig - KJ4KGZ

SKYWARN Network/Group Functions and Procedures

It is essential that SKYWARN spotter groups have a clear set of procedures for reporting and relaying severe weather and other observations. The group should have a designated methodology for relaying reports from the field to the local NWS office. All spotter/ham operators should know the primary contact for activation and operation of

their spotter network. Also, it is a smart idea to have a secondary contact in case the primary contact is not available, out of town, etc. Knowing the procedures and primary contact info will ensure that the spotter network/group works as smoothly and functionally as possible.

A SKYWARN or weather net would be activated on a specific repeater; there would be Net Control Stations (NCS) trained to handle the net and recommended net shifts would rotate about every 45 minutes depending on how long the event lasts. The previous (NCS) would brief the next (NCS) telling them exactly what is going on so they would be up to date. The net could be run anywhere but preferably a stable home or other building would be recommended. Even though here in South Florida we usually do not have widespread severe weather events, we do have tropical systems which are pretty widespread, summer rainy season storms, and occasional severe events in the winter/spring season. The spotter net would not be as active as in the Midwest but would still be here when those events did occur.

Spotting is not a one person job. Having quite a few spotters positioned around a storm would ensure getting as much data as possible. It would most likely be impossible for one spotter to get all the aspects of a thunderstorm. If spotters and spotter groups coordinate with each other and with the NWS then we could get the best possible assessment of a storm. Knowing exactly where spotters are and placing mobile spotters in strategic positions will allow a great amount of information to be passed on from spotter to Net Control Station to the National Weather Service. In Collier County's case the NWS we would report to is the NWS in Miami, FL. If multiple groups of spotters are reporting in the same area (i.e., an amateur radio group and a law enforcement group) then they should attempt to coordinate info between each other. Other spotter groups in the path of a storm should be notified way ahead of time to ensure they can activate quickly. ALL reports must contain Time, Effect, Location (T.E.L.), information. Spotters should know exactly what to report and do so efficiently to avoid backing up the net with unnecessary reports and idle chatter.

As long as spotters and spotter groups cooperate with the procedures and work together then weather nets will run smoothly, efficiently, and with the most benefit to their local community.

If you have interests and would like to be a SKYWARN spotter or already are and would like to join the list of spotters for the net then please email Alex Ihrig at alvarig1263@yahoo.com - he will assist you in doing so.

Also, thanks to Robin Terrill, N4HHP - Broward County SKYWARN Coordinator

Air Force MARS

AIR FORCE MARS is looking for new members.

If you are interested in joining the Military Affiliate Radio System please contact Karl N1DL for details. (email n1dl@n1dl.com)

Another over the air training session will start soon.

The MARS mission is to:

- Provide Department of Defense sponsored emergency communications on a local, national, and international basis as an adjunct to normal communications.
- Provide auxiliary communications for military, civil, and/or disaster officials during periods of emergency.
- Assist in effecting normal communications under emergency conditions.
- Create interest, and furnish a means of training members in military communications procedures.
- Provide a potential reserve of trained radio communications personnel.
- Handle moral and quasi-official record and voice communications traffic for Armed Forces and authorized U.S. Government civilian personnel stationed throughout the world.
- Conduct an appropriate Amateur Radio program as a part of the annual celebration of Armed Forces Day.

Eligibility to join MARS:

The applicant must:

- Be 17 years of age or older.
- Be a United States citizen or resident alien.
- Possess a valid amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.
- Have digital capability, i.e., Sound Card modes like MFSK or MT63
- Possess a station capable of operating on MARS HF frequencies.

MARS members must agree to operate in accordance with the rules and regulations governing MARS as follow:

- A minimum of 12 hours participation per calendar quarter with 6 hours in their primary HF assignment.

Benefits of MARS membership:

- Add to the enjoyment of your, amateur radio hobby through the expanded horizon of MARS.
- Become part of the Air Force MARS worldwide communications system.
- Increase your communications skills and capabilities. Selected correspondence courses in communications-electronics subjects are available free to MARS members from their respective affiliated service after completion of six months active membership.
- Operate on specially assigned military radio frequencies in voice or digital modes of communications.
- Join a group of dedicated fellow radio amateurs participating in meaningful public service.
- Gain a feeling of being associated with a military mission and contributing to the welfare and preparedness of the nation.
- Participate in regulated, disciplined radio nets with structured lines of organization and very specific operating rules.
- Participate in the MARS Excess/Surplus Equipment Program after 6 months active membership. Issue of equipment is based on availability of equipment, and possible assigned mission of individual activity. The granting of MARS membership to an individual or activity does not in itself convey an automatic right or entitlement of the recipient to receive or demand MARS property.

For more information you can also go to Web site: <http://afmars.tripod.com/mars1.htm>

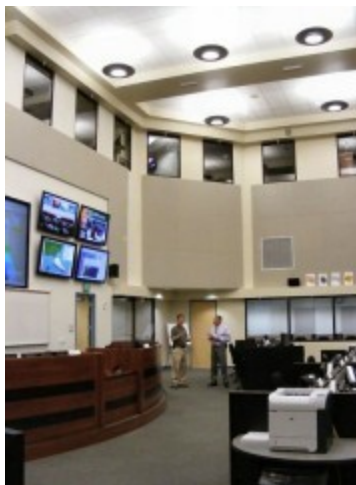
73 Karl Geng, AFA4BF and AFD4FL

Deputy State MARS director FL, PR and VI

EOC Tour - a couple of advance pictures



Dave, our President, in front of a 2.5 megawatt generator (presumably trying to work out if there might be an amateur radio application somewhere!)



Looking from main level showing the height of the operations area

Due to size limitations in the Newsletter, other photographs from the tour will appear on the Club website.

Trading Post

For Sale: MFJ-962D; Less than 3 years old; 1500w; 80 thru 10, instruction manual
Asking \$75.00

For Sale: ICOM 746 with filters. This radio was used at Field Day. It was just refurbished in May. It has a new mod so the Monitor does not go black. All new relays in the auto tuner. Has both manuals.
Asking \$700.00

George (AA4GT)
Call 774-1759 Cell 272-1759
E-MAIL aa4gt@comcast.net

And Finally.....!

Good Day,

It was with great shock and sadness that I learned of Jordan's passing the other day. I knew Jordan. Our story is strange, but goes back decades and I never tire of telling it.

My name is Shel Radin, and I'm KFOUR. I started out as a novice in 1964 as WN2REP (then WB2REP). I spent a lot of time on 15M SSB & CW with a bunch of local ham friends, and one of them was Jordan. I was in North Woodmere, NY, and Jordan was a few miles away in Long Beach.

We were primarily on-the-air friends. We'd rag chew for hours sometimes. Then, in ~1966, I actually met Jordan at a ham radio convention in NYC. We were walking around with our call sign badges, and when we spotted each

other's calls, we met and said hello. It was great to put a face with the name.

That was the first and last time I saw Jordan.

But wait, the story goes on and gets more interesting (to me).

I moved to Colorado Springs, CO in 1991 and soon got on the air as KFOUR. I was rag chewing with a fellow in MD and we were both reminiscing about the old Radio Row days, when we'd go with a few bucks and come back with an armful of stuff. When we finished our QSO, a fellow called me to say he was listening the the previous QSO and wanted to let me know that he did the same thing when he was a kid. He said his name was Jordan, and was in Naples.

In my shack, I have hundreds of QSL cards on the wall in plastic holders. Jordan's WN2QLP QSL from 1965 was right in front of me. I asked "Is this Jordan Mash?", and when he said yes, I almost fell over. We met again after approx. 30 years.

Over the next decade, we never made a sked, but always found each other on the band. He had such a distinctive voice, I could tell it was him before I heard his call.

Once again, it gets more interesting (to me). His then girlfriend Eileen (from Texas) was coming to Colorado Springs for a Bar Mitzvah. My XYL and I were going to the same Bar Mitzvah. It turns out we and Eileen had a mutual friend!. So, I met Eileen, we called Jordan, and hooked up once again. Small world.

Jordan & I spoke many times about meeting in Dayton or half way between Naples and Colorado, but we never made it happen, I'm sorry to say.

Well, that's it. I'll always remember Jordan and his

legacy will always be with us, and I'm glad that I had a chance to start QSO'ing with him in 1964.

Thanks for the eulogy on the web and his picture.

Best 73,

Shel KFOUR



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