



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMX No.9 The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
September 2010

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**Next Meeting will be held on September 28th
2010 at 7.00pm**

From the President's Shack

The Executive Board has been working hard to try and identify and secure new premises for our regular monthly meetings; we have also discussed the possibility of canceling some of the summer month meetings due to lack of attendance and concentrating on a full agenda with presentations for the remainder of the years meetings.

I look forward to bringing this up at the meeting on the 28th but please keep an eye out in your e-mail in-box in case we are successful in booking a new meeting place in time for this months meeting.

Till then...

73's
Dave
W4SFR



Meeting Minutes

The August Club meeting was canceled so no minutes this time round! However an Executive Board meeting was held on August 18th and the minutes of that meeting appear below:

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Special Executive Board Meeting held at Spanky's Speakeasy, Naples, Florida, on Wednesday, August 18th, 2010.

Present: Dave Schaare, W4SFR – President
David Worboys, MØZLB - Vice-President
Bob Graf, W2HI - Secretary
Tim Wallen, KC4SSD – Treasurer
George Tomlinson, AA4GT – Director

Peter Gaddy, KK4PG - Director
Tim Gibbons, KI4UAT - Director

Apologies: Karl Geng, N1DL – Director

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order:

The meeting was called to order at 12:45pm. The following issues were discussed:

New meeting location: Bob W2HI reported that he contacted 2 places:

- Edison Community College where 2 types of rooms are available – larger conference rooms and smaller classrooms. The cost of the smaller classrooms is reported to be \$25. per hour, but less for a non-profit organization. An application needs to be submitted to Edison for a more precise quote, and Bob W2HI volunteered to do so and report back at the next Board meeting.
- Fifth Third Bank on Goodlette Road. Here the second floor meeting room may be available at no cost, the only drawback being air-conditioning problems at the present time. Until the air-conditioning problems have been resolved, perhaps by early September, the bank is not making any commitments about the room. Bob W2HI volunteered to follow-up with the bank and report back at the next Board meeting.

Tim KC4SSD reported that meeting space may be available at a local residential facility at no cost, perhaps even with snacks provided. More information to be provided at the next Board meeting.

Summer meetings: The Board unanimously agreed that the August membership meeting be canceled due to expected small attendance and lack of meaningful program. Also, consideration will be given to possible canceling future meetings in July and August. There would then be only 8 meetings a year – January/February/March/April/May/September/October/November. There would be no meetings in June (Field Day), December (Christmas Party) and July/August. Decision to be made at the next Board meeting.

Wednesday Night Net: Peter KK4PG proposed that Net Control be on a rotating basis, and that there be a different club member each week who acts as net control. Dave W4SFR will prepare a sign-up sheet for Net Control to be circulated at each meeting beginning with the September membership meeting.

Misplaced Members Equipment: The Board agreed that it is the responsibility of members to be present when any event is completed, and that it is their responsibility to be present at "break-down" to retrieve their equipment. The Board agreed that ARASWF is not responsible for members' equipment that may have been accidentally taken home by another member, unless specific guarantees were made by an ARASWF officer or director to the member that ARASWF would be responsible for such equipment left in the care and custody of ARASWF.

Non-members operating at Field Day: It was brought to the attention of the Board that several former members of ARASWF, who have chosen not to renew their membership by paying the annual dues, were operating at Field Day. It was agreed that such non-members cannot be classified as guests (who are always welcome) and that consideration be given to excluding such former members from operation privileges at Field Day and other Special Events. Matter to be discussed again at the next Board meeting.

Expectations: It was generally agreed that it is unrealistic to expect an outpouring of enthusiasm from many of the club members to be involved in club activities, and to volunteer to take on club responsibilities, such as committee chairpersons, officer and director positions, etc. Such responsibilities seem to be left to the few, and expectations that this situation will dramatically change in the future are unrealistic. However, efforts to recruit member involvement should be on a continuing basis.

New officers and directors for 2011: Bob W2HI pointed out the need to make some changes to the roster of officers and directors for 2011 to make those positions more proactive than they have been in the past. No discussion.

Meeting Agendas: It was agreed by the Board that there should be a pre-published Agenda for each meeting, to be published in the newsletter and posted on the web site. Bob W2HI proposed the following:

January: Discuss the year's agenda, proposed activities, repeater changes, etc. with the expected large audience (which will include northern members here for the season). Serve donuts and soft drinks.

February: Auction – members to bring one (or two) items to be auctioned to the membership. Each member in turn describes their item(s), and leaves it on the front table. Following a short recess for members to visit the

table and examine the items, they are then auction off to the membership. Serve donuts and soft drinks.

- March: Make plans for Special Event (Oil Well Park ?)
- April: Dinner Meeting at local restaurant.
Make plans for Special Event (Florida QSO Party – April 30/May 1)
- May: Make plans for Special Event (Field Day–June 25/26, also Keewaydin Island ?)
- June: No Meeting (Field Day)
- July: No Meeting (Summer recess)
- August: No Meeting (Summer Recess)
- September: Make plans for Special Event (To be determined)
- October: Appoint Nominating Committee
- November: Election of officers and directors
- December: No meeting (Christmas Party)

Special Programs, Construction projects, etc. can be planned in advance and included in any of the months, with proper changes to the advance agenda.

Event Chairpersons: It was agreed that there should be a chairperson(s) for every Special Event, including Field Day. In the absence of a volunteer to be chairperson, the event will be considered for cancellation. Peter KK4PG volunteered to be chairperson for the Keewaydin Special Event. Tim KC4SSD volunteered to be chairperson for the (tentative) Oil Well Park Special Event. George AA4GT volunteered to look into the possibility of the club participating in Winter Field Day (January), and will report back at the next Board meeting. It was also agreed that changes in the responsibilities of members at ARRL Field Day need to be changed and better defined. Since Field Day 2011 is about one year away, further discussion about Field Day was postponed until a future meeting.

New members: It was agreed that some special recognition be made of new members as they join the club, including listing in the Newsletter. Tim KC4SSD suggested that new members be invited out to lunch each month.

Repeater Time-out-timer: The Board considered a request by Harry KD4JMV that the 146.67MHz repeater timer be disabled on Monday evenings so a broadcast of AR News can be made without interruption. The Board agreed that the time-out-timer should not be disabled in order to maintain compliance with FCC Part 97.213(b) where-under repeater transmissions must be limited to a maximum of three minutes under automatic control.

Next Executive Board Meeting: It was agreed that the next Board meeting will be held on September 14th, at 6:00 pm at Pizza Hut (next to Mel's Diner on Collier Blvd).

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Bob Graf, W2HI
Secretary



New Members

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Bill Krauss, N1MMQ of Naples as a new Member; welcome Bill!



News Items

From Don (K9ZKJ)



Morse Code Shiraz 2008

The Morse Code Shiraz is a fruit-driven wine with minimal oak to allow the fruit flavors and regional characters to the forefront. The wine shows fruit characters of blueberries and cherries with hints of liquorice and touches of spice and pepper. The palate is rich and full with a nice depth of berry fruit, toasted spice and a touch of mint, with a fleshy mid palate and a soft, round finish. Available from a company in Napa, CA - I kid you not!

from George (AA4GT)

A good woman

who can cook, clean, and climb towers.

Must have a complete Ham Radio Station.

Send photo of station

(with prepaid return envelope if you expect a reply)

from Peter (KK4PG)

A rather novel idea concerning a "*sea water antenna*", click this [link](#) to open a new page in your browser.

ARRL Southeastern Division Vice-Director election - October 2010

Sometime soon, ARRL members will be receiving ballot papers in the mail to enable them to cast their votes for the ARRL Southeastern Division Vice-Director position.

Although the Club is not endorsing either of the two candidates, we have been asked to publish the following submissions.

from Andrea Hartlage (KG4IUM)

Fellow ARRL members—

This October, members of the League across the Southeastern Division (Alabama, Georgia, Northern Florida, Southern Florida, West Central Florida, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Island sections) will receive ballots to elect who they believe will best represent them on ARRL's Board of Directors. As a candidate for **Vice-Director** and as a Ham who is passionate for our amazing hobby, I respectfully ask for your support and vote.

For over a decade my involvement in amateur radio has spanned across many of its facets, and it is the resulting breadth, experience, and perspective gained that I wish to put to work on your behalf as your Vice-Director. These include: serving as a Georgia Assistant Section Manager for nearly seven years; devoting my time in leadership roles within local and regional clubs; fulfilling voluntary and appointed positions as an active ARES member; ensuring public safety through involvement in our valuable Skywarn program; enjoying ham radio's roots as a CW operator and FISTS member; exploring ham radio's future by experimenting with its new modes and methods such as PSK31 and D-STAR; encouraging experimentation through involvement in activities such as high altitude balloon launches

and home brewing; chasing new countries and entities as a DXer; enjoying the competitive side of ham radio through contesting; and so much more.

Among my biggest passions is working to involve and engage the next generation of hams - our youth. For half a decade I served as one of ARRL's Contributing Editors, focusing on topics related to ham radio's legacy. And to more effectively involve our youth at hamfests across the United States, I co-developed the concept of a "Youth Lounge" (vastly different from a typical youth forum) which is promoted on ARRL's website for all interested hams, clubs, and hamfest committees to utilize. This concept has been a part of hamfest programs across Georgia, Alabama, California, North Carolina, and Wyoming, and it continues to spread elsewhere across our nation. Further exemplifying its effectiveness, the Youth Lounge concept has been an established program area of the Dayton Hamvention since 2005.

Today I am running to serve great members like you as Vice-Director of ARRL's Southeastern Division. As a life member of the League, Amateur Extra, and A-1 Operator, I believe strongly in the positive impact and influence the ARRL has and look to improve its effectiveness through offering my experience, perspective, and passion for ham radio.

If elected, I confidently make the following pledges to you:

- (1) to greatly improve communication within our Division. Leadership is ineffective without communicating to those whose views, concerns and opinions need to be represented;
- (2) to remain engaged with issues that pose a threat to our spectrum and operating privileges, whether it's BPL, the current ReconRobotics threat, or an FCC that bases its decisions on politics rather than sound engineering principles;
- (3) to assist the ARRL and its members in better attracting and involving youth in ham radio. They are our legacy who will one day lead the ham radio we care so much about today;
- (4) to improve the level and effectiveness of advocacy within our Division on matters before Congress and the FCC that affect amateur radio, its precious spectrum, or our valuable operating privileges.

I invite you to visit my website - www.SouthEasternDivision.org - to learn more about the upcoming election, my background and passion for ham radio, my position on a variety of issues that hams are concerned about, and to read further elaborations on my pledges to you. I encourage you to vote this October and kindly ask for your support so that I may represent you and your concerns effectively as Vice-Director of ARRL's Southeastern Division.

Thank you and 73,

Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM

Candidate for Vice- Director, ARRL Southeastern Division

website: www.SouthEasternDivision.org

from Jeff Beals (WA4AW)

To the members of the Amateur Radio Association of SW Florida:

I'm proud to be serving you as the Vice Director for ARRL's Southeastern Division. Many of you know me thru my many years of service with the ARRL Field Organization. As the long-time Affiliated Club Coordinator, I was very proactive with radio clubs in both the SFL Section, as well as in the rest of the Division. I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you at various club meetings, events, Field Days and hamfests. I value these face-to-face contacts, which are essential for building meaningful relationships with you.

Being retired allows me the freedom to travel and attend many club events, as well as to discuss your needs and views on amateur radio.

For those of you whom I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, my website: www.wa4aw.com, has complete information about me, including my background, things that I have done and will continue to do on your behalf, and my thoughts on some important issues. I'm a firm believer in not "reinventing the wheel" and in sharing what works with other clubs and ARES teams throughout our Division.

For almost half a century, Amateur Radio has been my hobby and passion. I've enjoyed the many faceted world of ham radio over the years, however we all need to give something back to the service. My way has been to volunteer with ARRL. And after many years of service with the ARRL Field Organization having held most Section and all ARES leadership positions, my finest honor was to be selected to serve as your Vice Director.

I will continue my program of superior representation for the members of the Southeastern Division by:

Responding to your emails or phone calls within 24 hours.

Visiting as many hamfests, club meetings, Field Days and events to meet with you, as time and funding allow.

Keep abreast of issues before the ARRL board, FCC filings and other matters to keep you better informed.

Continue my support of efforts to mitigate restrictive antenna ordinances and contractual covenants.

Continue my efforts to preserve our precious spectrum and thus prevent other interests from taking over our bands

Continue my support of programs by affiliated clubs and their members to recruit, retain and mentor new hams.

Please visit my website (www.wa4aw.com) for additional information and further details.

I welcome your emails and phone calls with any questions or concerns that you may have. And please let me know what is good about your ham radio experiences. I actively seek your opinions on the state of the Amateur Radio Service and the ARRL.

My record of leadership, integrity, service and experience speaks for itself. You will receive your ballot this October. I humbly ask for your support and vote so that I may continue to advocate for and represent you as your Vice Director.

Thank you & 73,

Jeff Beals WA4AW

wa4aw@arrl.net

561-252-6707

www.wa4aw.com

from me!

'Internet killed the radio star'

Our history has been filled with the fears of change as technology evolves and seems to displace the order we have been comfortable with.

So it has been with this hobby, in some ways. The historical fact that Morse code was the technique used to establish effective radio communications was made a sacred symbol, never to be relinquished.

More recently, the great Packet revolution came and went and some of the adherents of RF only communications railed at the moon as to how the world was doomed by the forwarding of traffic via internet worm-holes rather than station to station links using "radio".

Well the insatiable curiosity that propels mankind has seen the evolution of many digital modes and revitalization of lapsed modes. Very slow Morse and Hellschreiber are 2 modes that pre-date most of us current amateurs but are available because of current technology.

Similarly, there have been the cries of the VOIP modes are killing "real" radio. There still remains an antipathy between IRLP and Echolink proponents but now we have D-Star and Wires. This is evolution.

In some QSP from VK4KEV, Kevin advised an update to his QRZ web page details. This was that he hopes to be using VKOKEV from Macquarie Island later this year.

That information has gone viral amongst the DXers thanks to the internet.

To paraphrase, *the internet killed the radio star* - I don't think so.

Trading Post

Nothing this month people but don't forget, if you have anything you want to buy, sell or trade then let me have the details by the tenth of the month and I will include it in that months Newsletter.



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>

President: W4SFR

Dave Schaare

Vice President: KG4ZLB

David Worboys

Secretary: W2HI

Bob Graf

Treasurer: KC4SSD

Tim Wallen

Director: KK4PG

Peter Gaddy

Director:

Tim Gibbons, N4PIX

Director: N1DL

Karl Geng

Director: AA4GT

George Tomlinson

Newsletter Editor: KG4ZLB

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Webmaster: W2HI

Bob Graf

Visit
the



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

Web Site

www.araswf.org