



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMXII No. 12 - The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
December 2012

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**The next Club Meeting will be held January 22nd 2013 at 7.00pm
at the Red Cross - 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive Naples, FL**

Nickels & Dimes

It's all over except for the celebration and fireworks! I'm always amazed how quickly the year seems to close in from October to January 1st. There was a time in my life when time passed by more slowly and I seemed stuck in fourth grade forever... but I digress.

The club finished on a strong note in terms of membership. We picked up 8 members in the last quarter, including most recently John Stilwell – KK4NCA who passed his Technician's exam last month. Congratulations! – and that is HUGE as the big guy would say up in Cape Corral.

The membership elected a new board for next year and they have accepted the challenge to push the club forward and explore new opportunities. Uli-AG0X, President Elect has requested that this year's dues renewal notice include a short survey to better identify the membership's interest, so that we may better focus our attention and club resources.

Please take the time to fill out the survey and send it in along with your dues check, feel free to write in any comments on the reverse side. If you have any other ideas or interests, include them as well. Also, we are looking for interested members to lead specific projects and activities next year.

Also, I would like to say it's been my pleasure to serve as your Secretary/Treasurer this past year. While it may have cut into my operating time a bit, it's has been more rewarding that any contest score or DX contact I have made. I still need 107 counties for CQ's USA-CA award, only picked off four new ones this past year, but they will still be there next year.

Speaking of next year, don't forget to make plans for Orlando! I have included an affordable link for lodging below. Hopefully, we can get a group together and head north February 8th.

We had another good turnout for the Christmas Party this year; nearly forty people attended and enjoyed a chance to share holiday cheer and a wonderful meal. There were plenty of door prizes and of course, one last 50/50 for the year. Thank you for all that attended.

I wish you and your family all a safe and happy Holiday Season..

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Ken-W9KB
ARASWF Treasurer

Monthly Bonus Links:

<http://www.hamcation.com/>

<http://www.hiexpress.com/ocoeeeast> (Be sure and ask for special \$84.00 Hamcation rate)

Greetings de KF4IXA - Vice President Elect

I would like to take this opportunity to say hello to the club. I am honored and pleased to serve at your Vice President for 2013. I have been a ham since 1996 and I am a former member of the ARASWF. After a hiatus of a few years, my interest in ham radio has been fired up again and I am glad to be able to get involved at this level. I will be working to help bring the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida and Amateur Radio in general to a more prominent status in our community. I believe that social networking is a great way to do that, especially for the younger members of the community.

I would also like to work toward re-establishing Amateur Radio and ARES as an asset to the community. I will always be open to suggestion and I look forward to working with everyone in this upcoming year and beyond.

In closing I would also like to invite everyone to the January meeting where I will give a presentation on D-Star and hopefully shed some light on this new and exciting operating mode in Amateur Radio.

73 to all,

Eric Gissendaner, KF4IXA
kf4ixa@gmail.com

November General Membership Meeting Minutes

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Membership Meeting held at the Naples American Red Cross.
Tuesday, November 27th, 2012

Officers and Directors Present: Bill Krauss, N1MMQ – President
George Tomlinson, AA4GT – Past President
Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary/Treasurer
Frank Halas, W4RBW – Director
Henrietta Horvay, KA1JVN – Director
Harry Sevush, KD4JMV – Director

Absent: Bob Ostrin, WB2TGY – Vice President
Uli Altvater, AGØX – Director

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order: The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Twenty six members were in attendance.

Introductions: All attendees introduced themselves by name and call sign. Two new members joined the previous month: Ron Gruner- K4RHG and Ray Medura – W1FF. John Stilwell was present and passed his Technician exam prior to the meeting.

Reading & Approval of Previous Minutes: Previous meeting minutes were dispensed with since they were published previously in the ARASWF Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported that as of November 1st, 2012, the club's bank balance was \$3,215.48 with expenses of \$206.18 (ARRL Publications) and deposits of \$100 leaving a current balance of \$3,109.30.

Officers' Reports: None

Old Business: Bill-N1MMQ reported that the Echolink connection to the club FM repeater (146.670 MHz) has been repaired and is operational. Difficulties with Android and iPhone applications were reported by members. A long term solution involving collocation of the Echolink gateway computer at the repeater site was discussed and is currently be investigated.

Uli-AGØX reported the D-Star repeater was up and running nicely, including the linking function. He reported on his recent visit with John Daly to a County repeater site in Immokalee. The County has expressed a desire for our club to extend VHF coverage north into Hendry and Glades counties. Uli also outlined his vision to extend D-Star coverage in north Naples into Lee County from the Marbella site.

Bill-N1MMQ announced that the Santa Gram's project was tabled this year because of difficulties in reaching an agreement with the Coastland Mall Activities Manager. He recommended we pursue this next year and start early in the summer to work out an agreement with the Mall Management.

Harry-KD4JMV discussed the Naples Ham Radio & Electronics Fest which will be held January 12th at the Tree of Life Church located at 2132 Shadowlawn Drive in East Naples. Members were encouraged to attend and participate in the fun. A flyer and map will be sent out in the next few weeks.

George-AA4GT reported the 2013 Winter Field day will be held January 26 & 27 at Joe Goggin's *Tiki Hut*. Multipliers are important to win this contest, and stations may be worked on the same band in different modes for additional credit. A practice session was held out at Joe's on November 10th to test radios and antennas.

New Business: George-AA4GT announced the election committee's slate of officers and directors for 2013 which included:

Past President – Bill-N1MMQ, President – Uli-AG0X, Vice President – Eric-KF4IXA, Secretary/Treasurer – Ken-W9KB. Directors – Frank-W4RBW, Henrietta-KA1JVN, Gary-K8YMN, and George-AA4GT.

Harry-KD4JMV was nominated for Director from the floor. However, this raised the question of a vote, since club bylaws specify only four director positions. He graciously declined the nomination. The membership then voted and approved the above slate of officers' and directors for 2013. The Secretary accepted and recorded these results.

Bill-N1MMQ announced that the Christmas Party would again be at the Royal Woods Country Club, and is scheduled for next Tuesday, December 4th. The price will be \$25.00 per person. There will be door prizes, plus an exciting 50/50 drawing.

Ken-W9KB reported the VE testing sessions have been conducted for the past three months and have been successful in attracting new members. He stated since it is working so well, it will be continued into the next season from January through May.

Special Program: Harry-KD4JMV gave a very informative presentation on the use and handling of National Traffic System (NTS) messages. He discussed the four basic parts of NTS message: the Preamble, Address, Text, and Signature. These four parts are recorded on the message form along with information about how the message was originated, received, sent or delivered. The handling operator's duties include entering these records into a NTS traffic net. Harry called Phyllisan West-KA4FZI our area NTS coordinator during the Q&A session for answers to specific operational questions.

50/50: The raffle was won by Eric-KF4IXA. He donated his winnings to the club. \$61.00 will be deposited in the club's checking account. Thank you, Eric!

Adjournment: After the raffle, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The President adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Bills – W9KB
Secretary

New Members

Ron Gruner – K4RHG

Ray Midua – W1FF

John Stilwell – KK4NCA

2013 Membership Dues Notice

The following page depicts the new 2013 dues renewal form. This form will be sent out to all members on record this year. It is a unique PDF that you can download and directly type your personal information and interests into and then save. Please email this form back to the club secretary. This will allow us to update our records with your latest phone numbers and email addresses etc. Your checks and money orders can be brought to the January meeting or sent to:

ARASWF
P.O. Box 111604
Naples, FL 34108

New this year is a member interest survey, the board would like to capture the club interest and better focus our meetings and club programming next year.

A special thanks to our new member John-KK4NCA for creating this new form.

Happy Holidays!

73

Ken-W9KB

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC.

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

LICENSE CLASS: _____ ARRL MEMBER: YES NO

Please Check Below any interests you may have in Amateur Radio:

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Morse Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Education & VEC | <input type="checkbox"/> D-Star (VHF & UHF) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentations | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Software Defined
Radio | <input type="checkbox"/> Repeater & Microwave
Network |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARES Races | <input type="checkbox"/> Contesting | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="text"/> |

I would be interested in leading one of the above areas _____.

Additional Information

Type of Resident: Full Part

Spouse's Name: _____ Call: _____

Spouse's Class (If Applicable): _____

Out of Town Phone (If Applicable): _____

Out of Town Address (If Applicable): _____

Dues Renewal

Please mail this Application and a check or money order to ARASWF to the address provided below or bring it to the January 22, 2013 meeting. Check or Money Order payable to ARASWF.

ARASWF
P.O. Box 111604
Naples, FL 34104



U.S. Postal Service Announces New Prices and Services for 2013 First-Ever Global Forever Stamp Debuts When Prices Change January 27

The US Postal Service has announced that as of January 27, 2013, the cost to mail First Class letters, postcards and packages within the US will go up. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 46 cents, while the cost to mail a postcard will be 33 cents, an increase of 1 cent for each. This is the third increase for postcard postage in less than two years; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents and from 29 cents to 32 cents in January 2012. The USPS will also introduce a First Class Mail Global Forever Stamp in January. This new stamp will allow customers to mail 1-ounce letters anywhere in the world for one set price of \$1.10. The cost to mail flat-rate Priority Mail packages and letters will also increase. [Click here](#) for more information on all the 2013 postal increases.

WASHINGTON — Beginning early next year, the Postal Service will introduce a First-Class Mail Global Forever Stamp. The new stamp will allow customers to mail letters anywhere in the world for one set price of \$1.10, and is among new mailing and shipping services filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission today.

The price for First-Class Mail single-piece letters will increase by just a penny when prices change in Jan. The new 46 cent Forever stamps will allow customers to mail letters to any location in the United States. Forever stamps are always good for mailing a one-ounce letter anytime in the future regardless of price changes.

Highlights of the new single-piece First-Class Mail pricing, effective Jan. 27, 2013 include:

- Letters (1oz.) — 1-cent increase to 46 cents
- Letters additional ounces — unchanged at 20 cents Letters to all international destinations (1oz.) — \$1.10
- Postcards — 1-cent increase to 33 cents

The Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) will review the prices before they become effective Jan. 27, 2013. Today's Shipping and Mailing price filings will be available on the PRC website at www.prc.gov and the new Mailing Service prices will also be available at: <http://pe.usps.com>.

Shipping Services Several new Shipping Services products will be available in January. Free tracking will be offered to all competitive packages, including retail Priority Mail and Parcel Post (recently renamed Standard Post).

Also new, customers shipping Critical Mail letters and flats will now have the option of receiving a signature upon delivery as part of the service offering.

A large variety of flat-rate boxes and envelopes for Express Mail and Priority Mail, including the padded and legal-sized flat rate envelopes will continue to be offered by the Postal Service.

New domestic retail pricing for Priority Mail Flat Rate products include:

Small box — \$5.80	Regular envelope — \$5.60
Medium box — \$12.35	Legal envelope — \$5.75
Large box — \$16.85	Padded envelope — \$5.95

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. A self-supporting government enterprise, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation — 151 million residences, businesses and Post Office™ Boxes. The Postal Service™ receives no tax dollars for operating expenses, and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. If it were a private sector company, the U.S. Postal Service would rank 35th in the 2011 Fortune 500.

Miami Hamfest – February 1st & 2nd 2013

Welcome to the Miami Hamfest, Whether you're an amateur radio operator looking to meet up with your friends you talk to on the air, looking to get started in amateur radio, just want to find out what it's all about, or you just want to browse our flea market and tailgate sections for unique electronic items, come by and check us out! The Miami Hamfest is open to the public Friday, February 1, from 12 PM to 8 PM, and Saturday, February 2, from 8 AM to 6 PM. We recommend you get there early as the best deals on unique and hard to find electronic, radio, and computer equipment go fast!

For more information, please feel free to contact us anytime, and follow our pages on Twitter and Facebook. Want to find out more about amateur radio? See the Resources page.

<http://www.miamihamfest.net/show/resources/>

What's a Hamfest?



In short... it's everything electronic, all in one place, with both commercial and hobbyist vendors on site for everything related to radio, electronics, and computers. We make Radio Shack look like a hole in the wall. Over 100 years ago, wireless transmission of signals was pioneered by some of the greatest minds of all time, Nikola Tesla, Heinrich Rudolf Hertz, and

Michael Faraday. These amazing individuals spent many days and nights poring over coils of wire, capacitors, high voltage batteries, and spark gaps that oscillated with a rough whisper of radio signal to carry telegraphic Morse Code signals across the airwaves. Over a century of innovations brought us cleaner signals that could more efficiently be sent and received over a radio spectrum that was in increasing demand, and the means to include voice, images, video signals, and digital data on wireless transmissions.

Throughout decades of wireless development, amateur, or ham radio, has remained steadily the only radio service that incorporates experimental uses of radio and electronic communications into its core values and privileges to use dedicated areas of the radio spectrum.

As electronic communications technology advanced, amateur radio and electronics hobbyists began to need a venue for trading in the unusual parts and tools used for communicating and for developing and building new equipment, and for networking with other hobbyists tinkering with and advancing the art and science of electronic communications. In the flea market areas where hobbyists trade their electronic toys, you will find everything from radio equipment, computers and computer parts, military surplus electronics, electronic test and service equipment, tools, vintage audio equipment, vacuum tubes, professional and consumer grade audio gear, even old home computers and video gaming systems. Basically, if it's electronic, there's a very good chance you'll find it right here, and find someone else who appreciates what it can do for you. You do not need to be a licensed ham radio operator to attend our event or to fully enjoy it! If you are interested in amateur radio, electronics, or electronic communications, we do highly recommend that you become a ham worldwide.

Just to toot our collective horn a bit, that cell phone in your pocket that can send and receive text and picture messages and browse the Internet via wireless data connection... all of that evolved from what we were doing decades ago. Everything old is new again, and our projects today will shape the future.

Proudly brought to you by the Dade Radio Club of Miami

Upcoming Events

Naples Ham Radio & Electronics Fest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

Date: 01/12/2013 - Saturday

Start Time: 6:00 AM

End Time: 12:00 Noon

Location: Tree of Life Church

2132 Shadowlawn Drive

Naples, FL 34112

Website: <http://www.araswf.org>

Sponsor: Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.670- (PL 136.5)

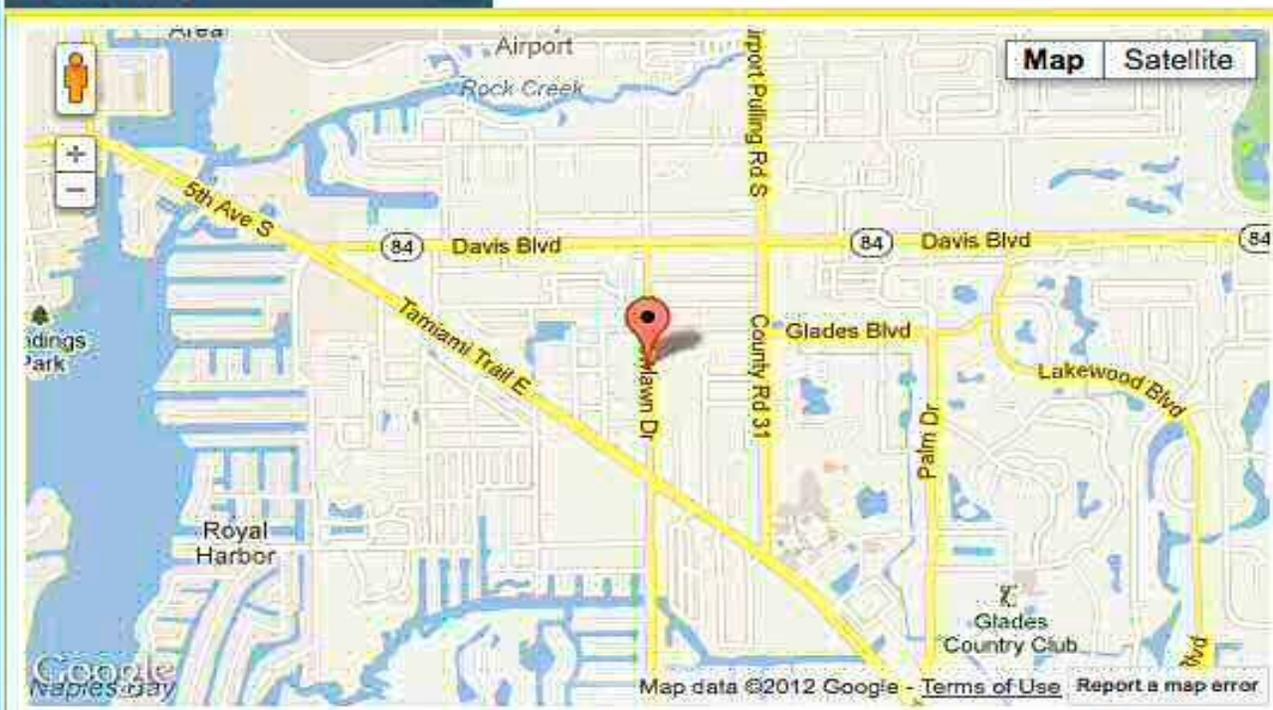
Public Contact: Harry Sevush , KD4JMV

Phone: 239-322-2586

Email: kd4jmv@comcast.net



Locations



Florida Contest Group

Calling All FCG'ers,

Please save the dates on your calendars for the Orlando HamCation - February 8, 9, and 10th.

On Friday night, February 8th, we will hold our annual FCG Banquet at the American Legion Hall from 6 pm to 10 pm. Our guest speaker -- yet to be announced -- is a prominent contester who will entertain us with stories and information about some of our most favorite contests.

Dennis, K7BV from Yaesu has once again blessed us with a fine radio - the FT 950 - as the Grand Prize for our banquet.

The banquet will once again feature the fine cookin' of the ladies and gentlemen of the American Legion Halll. The price is \$20, which includes domestic 807's for your enjoyment at no additional cost.

On Saturday, February 9th, our FCG meeting will be at 12-noon at the Golden Corral restaurant. The highlight of the meeting will be the presentation by K1TO of 2012 FQP Plaques and Certificates.

We hope to see y'all in Orlando.

73, Geo...

George Wagner, K5KG
Sarasota, FL

941-400-1960

<http://www.floridacontestgroup.org/>

KD4JMV Antenna Party – November 15, 2012





Bill-N1MMQ & Skip (Harry's neighbor)



LR: Mark-AC4ZM, Harry-KD4JMV, & Skip

2012 Christmas Party – December 4, 2012



L-R: Dick-W0MIA, Mary-NV4Z, George-AA4GT, Ken-W9KB



Sigi-W2JQ, Hanni-N4SKT



Bruce-K9PWQ & Janet



L-R: Bill-N1MMQ, Lorraine-WA2ZSH, Bob-WB2TGY



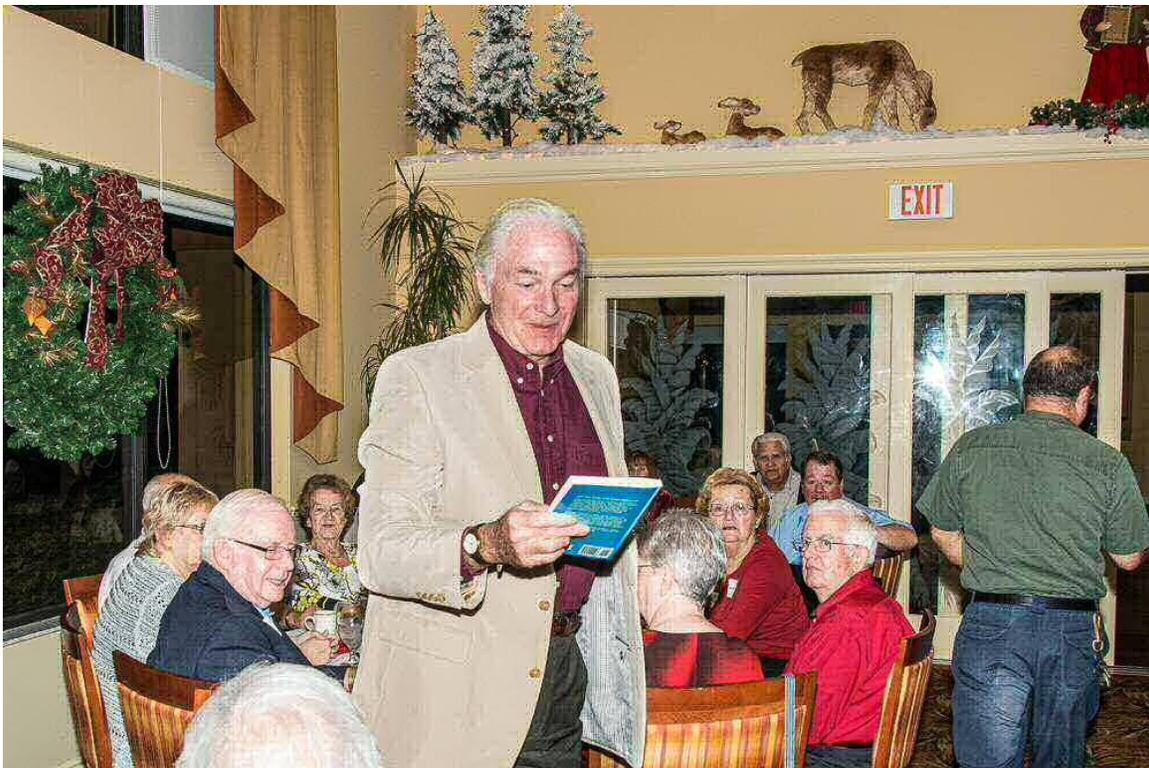
Bill-K2ZEL & Dottie



L-R: A.D.-K4ADR, Carolyn Randolph, Jeff-NJ2F, Beverly-KA2EYL



Bill-N1MMQ & Harry-KD4JMV



Newest Member Ron Gruner-K4RHG



Tim-KC4SSD & Kasey Wallen (daughter)



Tim-KC4SSD & Linda-K4LLW

Club Information

Meeting Info: 4th Tuesday @ 7:00pm

American Red Cross
2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive
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: N1MMQ
Bill
Vice President: WB2TGY
Bob
Secretary: W9KB
Ken
Treasurer: W9KB
Ken
Director: W4RBW
Frank
Director: AG0X
Uli
Director: KD4JMV
Harry
Director: KA1JVN
Henrietta
Past President: AA4GT
George

Newsletter Editor: KG4ZLB
David
Webmaster: W2HI Bob

Visit
the



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

Web Site

www.araswf.org