








ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMXIII No. 3 - The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
March 15, 2013

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**The next Club Meeting will be held March 26nd 2013 at 7:00pm
at the Red Cross - 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive Naples, FL**

Nickels & Dimes

Spring Forward!... While the clocks were set ahead last weekend and we enjoy an extra hour of daylight in the evening, I still don't seem to have enough time to finish everything!

Thinking about what to write this month, it occurred to me that we are closing in on the end of another season. Hopefully, many of our members will stay until the end of April. This will provide an opportunity to participate in the annual Florida QSO Party which is always held the last weekend of April. This year we have the honor to defend our 2012 1st place victory (Club Category).

We have a secret weapon this year, a Dunestar Triplexer. This device will isolate and permit the use of three radios simultaneously on one tri-band antenna. The plan is to operate 10, 15, 20, and 40 meters at the Red Cross. Four stations will require more operators to man so it's important to mark your calendars, attend, and make a few Q's.

A planning session to cover the basics of operation and record some wav files for the logger voice macros will be held. There will be no need to call CQ until your voice goes hoarse; simply hit F4 and the computer will call for you or set the repeat function and sit back and wait.

Also, this month Uli-AG0X, Tim-KC4SSD, and Bill-N1MMQ spent hours working on repeater improvements and discovered that the WB2QLP duplexers were the root cause of poor reception and need retuning. A second receive antenna was utilized to replace the duplexers. While, not a permanent or optimal solution, the repeater performance is nevertheless better than it has been in quite some time. The second antenna will ultimately be used for the D-Star repeater which will be collocated at the site.

Finally, it's not too early to start thinking about Field Day. I have received many ideas and suggestions to improve club participation. Being a Field Day newbie last year, my focus was on the operational logistics, I could barely think of anything else. Hopefully, much of that operational work will now be plug & play which will allow us to focus on new areas. Please keep in mind that a committee of one or two cannot cover all the bases. It would be great to have someone co-chair the event along with additional members to volunteer and assume responsibility for setup, operations, food, publicity, and teardown areas.

Please plan to attend the next meeting March 26th and get involved with a interest group!

Ken-W9KB
ARASWF Treasurer

Monthly Bonus Links:

<http://dunestar.com/store/HF-Triplexer-Filter-pid-6.html>

<http://www.nasa.gov/news/index.html>

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Membership Meeting held at the Naples American Red Cross.
Tuesday, February 26th, 2013

Officers and
Directors Present:

Uli Altvater, AGØX – President
Eric Gissendaner, KF4IXA – Vice President
Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary/Treasurer
George Tomlinson, AA4GT – Director
Gary Lee, K8YMN – Director
Henrietta Horvay, KA1JVN – Director
Frank Halas, W4RBW – Director

Absent:

Bill Krauss, N1MMQ – Past President

MEETING MINUTES

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

Introductions: All attendees introduced themselves by name and call sign.

President's Opening Remarks: Uli – AGØX welcomed all the members and guests in attendance for their continuing support and their club participation.

Reading & Approval of Previous Minutes: George – AA4GT moved that the meeting minutes be accepted dispensed since they were published previously in the January 2013 ARASWF Newsletter. Bob – W0OB supported the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Ken – W9KB reported that as of February 1st, 2013 the club's bank balance was \$4,230.56. Expenses were \$54.00 (Club PO Box Rent), collected dues were \$50.00, leaving a current balance of \$4,226.56.

Officers' Reports: Ken-W9KB passed out a draft copy of several proposed by-law changes. The by-laws changes will be discussed and voted upon at the next board meeting. If approved, they will be brought forward to general membership for discussion and ratification next month.

Ken also reported that at the previous VE sessions, three candidates successfully passed the Technician's examination. One candidate passed all three elements. Congratulations: Harold Kiena, Cameron Sawyer, and John Whiteman.

Old Business: Uli-AG0X reported on the improvement plan for the 146.670 repeater. The feedline has been updated; a planned Internet connection is in process to support Echolink. A second D-Star repeater (AB4NP) will be collocated at the Marbella site to extend coverage in north Naples and Lee County.

George – AA4GT reported that 2013 Winter Field day which was held January 26 & 27 at Joe Goggin's was a success this year. Last year's scored was improved upon, multipliers were the key. Given the posted scores to date, we are in second place for outdoor multiple operator category.

New Business: Uli – AG0X further discussed his idea to promote amateur radio in the community through the introduction of a technical education program. This program could be offered through the school system and linked with the VE program. A meeting will be scheduled later this month to discuss ways to kick off the program.

Ken-W9KB discussed a plan to raise funds for the club. His idea, discussed at last month's board meeting, is to purchase and sell raffle tickets for an ICOM IC-80AD HT. It was suggested that the raffle will be held at Field Day. The membership approved the idea.

Presentation: In lieu of a formal presentation this month, the following special interest team Captains provided a 5-10 minute summary of their respective areas.

Eric – KF4IXA reported the DVAD group is meeting every 2-3 weeks for discussion and lunch of D-Star and other digital voice and data modes.

The Florida QSO Party is the next event on the club contest calendar according to Ken – W9KB. It will be held the last weekend in April. There will be two pre-planning sessions scheduled prior to the event for members acquaint themselves with the equipment and logging software. This year's Field Day will be handled in a similar manner with planning and practice sessions scheduled in May and June.

Henrietta – KA1JVN has sent out an email to all those members who signed up to help setup and organize the social activities of the club. Also, she is exploring options for this year's Christmas party. The Royal Woods may not be available this year, so another venue may be necessary. If any member has a suggestion for a suitable location, please forward it to Henrietta.

Ed – K1UQE outlined his plans to lead the EmComm area for the club. Ed has been in contact with the County EOC office to establish a relationship and better understand their requirements for club to participation. Ed plans to commence an EmCom Net on Wednesday nights at 8:00pm to establish operating procedures and establish repeater coverage areas using both the 147.030 and 146.670 repeaters.

50/50 Raffle: No formal raffle this month... A copy of ARRL's "Small Antennas for Small Spaces" and "Nifty E-Z Guide to D-STAR Operation" was given away instead.

Adjournment: George – AA4GT moved to adjourn at 9:45pm, it was seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Bills – W9KB
Secretary

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Executive Board Meeting held at Trimax Wireless, Naples, Florida, on Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

Present: Uli Altvater, AG0X – President
Eric Gissendaner, KF4IXA – Vice President
Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary/Treasurer
George Tomlinson, AA4GT – Director
Gary Lee, K8YMN – Director
Henrietta Horvay, KA1JVN – Director
Frank Halas, W4RBW – Director

Absent: Bill Krauss, N1MMQ – Past President

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm.

President's Report – Uli-AG0X discussed the Team Captain reports from last month. Since some Captains were unable to report, he would like to see their reports scheduled for the April membership meeting before our seasonal members migrate north.

Treasurer's Report – Ken-W9KB provided a current treasurer's report commencing March 1st with a bank balance of \$4,236.56. No expenses were incurred this month; \$50.00 in dues were collected, leaving a present checking account balance of \$4,276.56.

Old Business: Uli-AG0X gave a brief wrap-up of the improvement project for the 146.670 FM repeater located at the Marbella in Pelican Bay. The duplexers were found to be out of tune and were temporarily replaced with the D-Star repeater antenna (on the receive side). The duplexers will be retuned and reinstalled within a week. An Internet drop is being installed this week, a 400' run of CAT5 is required to facilitate the connection.

A second D-Star repeater (AB4NP) will be added at the Marbella site and will operate on 147.270 MHz. This will compliment AB4FL which Karl-N1DL is operating a few miles north on 443.8 MHz. A third new D-Star repeater (AC4FL) is in the works for Immokalee. The club is actively working with Collier County to make arrangements for installation on a tower in the northeast section of the county.

One or two Macro Island repeaters will be converted to D-Star within the next few weeks depending upon schedules; they will continue to operate with the same coordinated call sign and frequency splits as before.

Uli's eventual goal is to provide full coverage of Collier County with a simple low power HT device (i.e. ICOM IC-80AD).

Ed-K1UQE has scheduled a meeting with Collier County EOC Director, Dan Summers to discuss the club's role with EmComm within the county. Ed has provided a Mission Statement for the EmComm group -- check the upcoming newsletter for details.

The Board approved a motion to modify the Field Day raffle (previously approved last month). First prize will be an ICOM IC-80AD HT *or* \$400 in cash; an additional second (\$100) and third (\$25) prizes were also added. This change was made to make sales more appealing to those members not interested in a specific radio prize.

The Board approved a \$100 estimate to repair the club owned ICOM 746 Pro.

New Business: Ken-W9KB discussed the upcoming Florida QSO Party which will be held at the Red Cross facility on April 27 & 28th. A planning and practice session will be held to acquaint new operators with the equipment and logging procedures.

2013 Field Day event was discussed. It is planned to be held at Veteran's Park again this year. Frank-W4RBW volunteered to contact the park office to secure the venue. More attention on food and family involvement will be planned for this year.

The ARASWF Bylaws and proposed changes were reviewed. A motion to forward the Bylaw change proposal to the membership for a final vote at the March 26th meeting was approved.

The Board confirmed there was no specific preamble for the Naples Information Net. There is a suggested preamble; however, Net Control may adopt a preamble suitable to their style of operation or circumstances of operation (e.g. mobile).

The agenda for the next GM membership meeting was set for March 26th. Eric-KF4IXA will give a 45 minute presentation on D-Star.

The next VE testing date was set for 5:30pm March 26, 2013.

Specific assignments that were taken out of the meeting:

- W9KB – Provide the Florida Repeater Council with update information
- W9KB – Follow-up with Webmaster and provide new repeater information
- W4RBW – Secure 2013 Field Day site

Next Board Meeting – Trimax Wireless, Monday April 15th @ 1:30 pm

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Bills, W9KB
Secretary

Upcoming Contest Calendar

This month:

SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1600Z, Mar 15 to 1000Z, Mar 17
+ BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 16 to 0200Z, Mar 18
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 16 to 1200Z, Mar 17
+ North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 18
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 27
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Mar 27 to 0400Z, Mar 28
+ CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 30 to 2400Z,

Next month:

SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 4
+ LZ Open 40m Sprint Contest	0400Z-0800Z, Apr 6
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 6 to 1500Z, Apr 7
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Apr 10 to 0400Z, Apr 11
JIDX CW Contest	0700Z, Apr 13 to 1300Z, Apr 14
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Apr 13 to 2359Z, Apr 14
EU Spring Sprint, CW	1600Z-1959Z, Apr 13
+ Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 13 to 2359Z, Apr 14
Hungarian Straight Key Contest	1500Z-1700Z, Apr 14
+ Holyland DX Contest	2100Z, Apr 19 to 2100Z, Apr 20
TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Apr 20
+ ES Open HF Championship	0500Z-0859Z, Apr 20
CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest	1200Z, Apr 20 to 2359Z, Apr 21
+ EU Spring Sprint, SSB	1600Z-1959Z, Apr 20
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 20 to 0400Z, Apr 21
+ Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 20 to 1800Z, Apr 21
YU DX Contest	2100Z, Apr 20 to 1700Z, Apr 21
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Apr 24
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Apr 24 to 0400Z, Apr 25
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	0001Z, Apr 27 to 2359Z, Apr 28
+ SP DX RTTY Contest	1200Z, Apr 27 to 1200Z, Apr 28
Helvetia Contest	1300Z, Apr 27 to 1259Z, Apr 28
+ QRP to the Field	1500Z, Apr 27 to 0300Z, Apr 28
Florida QSO Party	See flyer in newsletter



ARASWF Emergency Communication Mission Statement

Goal: To provide emergency communications between Collier County Emergency Management Center, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), and the general public as needed.

Mode: The club owns and operates several repeaters. The one that would be used during emergencies is WB2QLP, an analog FM repeater operated on 146.67 (PL 136.5Hz.). This repeater site has a battery backup power system and a standby generator should the power be disrupted. This repeater can be easily accessed by a radio currently located at the Collier County Emergency Management Center.

Coverage: During practice exercises (Thursday evenings 8:00pm) we have made many successful contacts with stations throughout most of the Collier County area, Bonita Springs, and The Port of the Isles to our south. We are working on extending our coverage into the Immokalee area.

Operation: We will make a concerted effort to have a CERT member available to operate this radio at the Collier County Emergency Management Center during times of emergency and practice events.

ARASWF Field Day Raffle



HM189GPS Microphone not included

Tickets are \$10 each - 100 total tickets available.... this is a limited raffle, it will sell out!

Raffle will be held at our 2013 Field Day Site in Veterans Park

1st Prize - ICOM IC-80AD HT (D-Star Ready)

2nd Prize - \$100

3rd Prize - \$25

Winners need not be present.



The Florida QSO Party

Florida QSO Party 2013 - April 27 & 28

We're having a party, and you're invited! Be sure to mark your calendar and join us in having fun operating the next Florida QSO Party. We will operate 3 stations this year at the Red Cross location. Visit the website for rules, results, records, and more information:

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

Since the re-introduction of the Florida QSO Party to the contest scene in 1998, the Florida QSO Party has become one of the fastest growing and most popular State QSO Parties around today. This is due, in part, to the tremendous effort by the mobile teams to activate as many counties as they can in order to allow those participating from out-of-state, to achieve a county "Sweep" (working all 67 Florida Counties). Florida stations operating from home are also valuable, since that increases the chances that stations will work all counties!

Regardless if you are a serious or casual participant ... from Florida, or from outside of Florida ... the Florida QSO Party was designed to be a FUN operating event. Why not give it a try?

A reminder for Home stations (both in and outside Florida), please do not call CQ or "run" stations in the "Mobile window". This window is for mobile stations only. Frequencies to avoid, are:

CW 7.025-7.035, 14.040-14.050, 21.040-21.050, 28.040-28.050 MHz

SSB 7.180-7.190, 14.265-14.275, 21.340-21.350, 28.480-28.490 MHz

+ *FCC Enforcement News: Alleged Deliberate Interference Leads to \$25,000 Fine for Florida Ham*

On March 1, the FCC issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* in the amount of \$25,000 to Terry L. VanVolkenburg, KC5RF, of Cocoa, Florida. The FCC alleged that VanVolkenburg "apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Sections 301 and 333 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended..., by operating a radio transmitter without a license on...465.300 MHz and for interfering with licensed communications." VanVolkenburg holds an Advanced class license.



According to the Commission's *Forfeiture Policy Statement* and Section 1.80 of the rules, the base forfeiture amount for operation without an instrument of authorization is \$10,000, and the base forfeiture amount for interference is \$7000. In assessing the monetary forfeiture amount, the FCC must also take into account statutory factors that include the nature, circumstances, extent and gravity of the violations, and with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay and other such matters. "We find Mr VanVolkenburg's misconduct particularly egregious because his unlicensed operation involved willful and malicious interference to the communications of the Brevard County

Sheriff's Department, which included threats against the officers, after being told (multiple times) to cease his interfering communications," the FCC stated in the *NAL*. "Thus, we find that an upward adjustment of \$8000 to the combined base forfeiture of \$17,000 is warranted. Applying the *Forfeiture Policy Statement*, Section 1.80 of the rules and the statutory factors to the instant case, we conclude that Mr VanVolkenburg is apparently liable for forfeiture in the amount of \$25,000." VanVolkenburg has until March 30, 2013 to pay the forfeiture in full, or file a written statement seeking its reduction or cancellation.

+ *Florida Hams Prove that Ham Radio Works When Cell Phones Don't*

After a day of exploring the Green Swamp Wildlife Management Area -- which covers 50,692 protected acres in Florida's Lake, Polk and Sumter Counties -- with his grandson, Joe Cody, KE4WDP, of Winter Haven, Florida, saw that the roads were flooding and becoming hazardous. As he tried to drive out of the area, Cody's small pick-up truck got bogged down in the mud. Since he was out of cell phone range, Cody tried calling for help on the Dade City 146.880 repeater. Richard Parker, KF4ORW, of Dade City, Florida, heard the call and answered. After hearing the situation, Parker called 911 in Pasco County, who put him in touch with the dispatch in neighboring Polk County. Cody passed his location on to Parker, who in turn passed it on to the Polk County Sheriff's Office. "Polk County 911 took over trying to get help," Parker said. "They called me back several times for more information and I was able to relay information from Joe to them. Then Ted Bulmanski, W4TKB, who is also from Dade City, started monitoring and copying Joe's information."

About 30 minutes later, Parker saw a helicopter fly over and around Cody's position, and after another 30 minutes, Cody radioed back on the repeater, saying he was on his way home -- thanks to a Lake County Deputy in a Sheriff's Office truck that had a winch. "We learned that Joe was eight miles inside Lake County," Parker explained. "That's why the Lake County Sheriff's Office responded instead of the Polk County authorities. The Polk County Sheriff's Office called me back to say that the helicopter from Lake County found the truck inside Lake County and sent both a deputy from Lake County, as well as a Fish and Game Officer and winched him out of the mud. They called me back to thank us for assisting the stranded pair. Ham radio still works when other forms of communications don't."

+ *Amateur Radio and the Law*: Montana Governor Signs Legislation to Limit Antenna Restrictions, Protect Hams from Distracted Driving Regulations

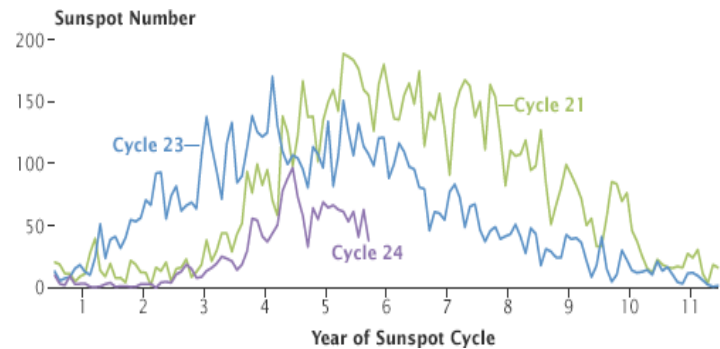
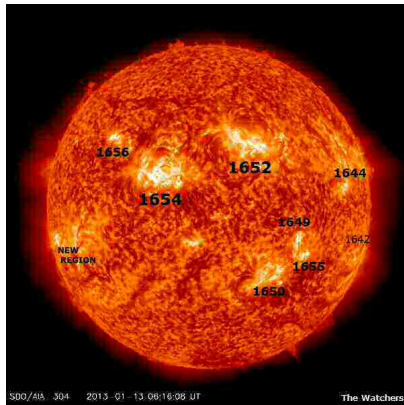
On February 28, Montana Governor Steve Bullock (D) signed House Bill 148 into law. Montana State Representative Pat Connell, WA7PDC, had submitted the bill -- *Clarifying Local Government Authority to Regulate Amateur Radio Operations* -- on the 2013 Montana legislative docket in order to protect Amateur Radio operators in Montana from distracted driving laws. The new law prohibits local governments from regulating licensed Amateur Radio operations from a motor vehicle and also establishes a 100-foot by-right height below which local jurisdictions may not regulate Amateur Radio towers. Read more "Over the past few years, many of the larger Montana cities have enacted laws to prohibit the use of mobile telecommunication devices while a motor vehicle is in motion," explained Rod Jackson, AE7JJ, Public Affairs Officer for the Great Falls [Montana] Area Amateur Radio Club. "These actions were taken to stem what was perceived as a safety concern from the distractions of trying to carry on a mobile phone call or send a text message while trying to drive the vehicle. Each time these new regulatory actions were under consideration, the drafters always tried to include mobile Amateur Radio operators in the same group as the typical cell phone user."



Montana Governor Steve Bullock (seated, right) signs Montana House Bill 148 into law on February 28 as bill sponsor Pat Connell, WA7PDC (seated, left) and ARRL Montana Section Manager-elect George Forsyth, AA7GS (standing) look on. [William Erhardt, K7MT, photo]

Jackson told the ARRL that many radio amateurs from across the state came to the capital to testify in support of HB 148 in both the House and Senate committees: "The bill received wide support during the process, including an official endorsement from the Montana Association of Counties. Their representative cited the numerous benefits that Amateur Radio operators bring to their communities, in particular Amateur Radio's critical role in providing emergency communications support during times of disaster." While HB 148 does not affect antenna installations in those areas designated as historic districts or those areas covered by agreed upon covenants, Jackson explained that it does provide the vast majority of Montana hams "a good measure of protection from overzealous local government actions."

Latest Solar News



Something unexpected is happening on the Sun. 2013 was supposed to be the year of “solar maximum,” the peak of the 11-year sunspot cycle. Yet 2013 has arrived and solar activity is relatively low. Sunspot numbers are well below their values from 2011, and strong solar flares have been infrequent. The quiet has led some observers to wonder if forecasters missed the mark.

Solar physicist Dean Pesnell of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center has a different explanation. “This *is* solar maximum,” he says. “But it looks different from what we expected because it is double-peaked.”

Conventional wisdom holds that solar activity swings back and forth like a simple pendulum. At one end of the cycle, there is a quiet time with few sunspots and flares. At the other end, solar max brings high sunspot numbers and frequent solar storms. It’s a regular rhythm that repeats every 11 years.

Reality is more complicated. Astronomers have been counting sunspots for centuries, and they have seen that the solar cycle is not perfectly regular. The back-and-forth swing in sunspot counts can take anywhere from 10 to 13 years to complete. Also, the amplitude of the cycle varies; some solar maxima are very weak, others very strong.

The top image above shows the Earth-facing surface of the Sun on February 28, 2013, as observed by the Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager (HMI) on NASA’s Solar Dynamics Observatory. HMI observes the solar disk at 6173 Ångstroms, a wavelength designed to study surface oscillations and the magnetic field. HMI observed just a few small sunspots on an otherwise clean face, which is usually riddled with many spots during peak solar activity. The video below shows a full solar rotation observed by HMI from February 1-28, 2013. (Download the animation from the links below the image.)

Pesnell notes yet another complication in the solar cycle: "The last two solar maxima, around 1989 and 2001, had not one but two peaks." Solar activity went up, dipped, then rose again, performing a mini-cycle that lasted about two years. The same thing could be happening now, as sunspot counts jumped in 2011 and dipped in 2012. Pesnell expects them to rebound in 2013: "I am comfortable in saying that another peak will happen in 2013 and possibly last into 2014,"

The second image above plots monthly sunspot numbers for solar cycle 24 (the current one), cycle 23, and cycle 21, the last one with one, normal peak.

Another curiosity of the solar cycle is that the Sun's hemispheres do not always peak at the same time. In the current cycle, the south has been lagging behind the north. The second peak, if it occurs, will likely feature the southern hemisphere playing catch-up, with a surge in activity south of the Sun's equator.

Pesnell is a member of the NOAA/NASA Solar Cycle Prediction Panel, which last assembled in 2008 to forecast the next solar maximum. The panel declared: "The next solar cycle (Cycle 24) will be below average in intensity, with a maximum sunspot number of 90. Given the date of solar minimum and the predicted maximum intensity, solar maximum is now expected to occur in May 2013."

Given the tepid state of solar activity now, a maximum in May seems unlikely. "We may be seeing what happens when you predict a single amplitude and the Sun responds with a double peak," says Pesnell. He notes a similarity between Solar Cycle 24 and Solar Cycle 14, which had a double-peak during the first decade of the 20th century. If the two cycles are twins, "it would mean one peak in late 2013 and another in 2015."

NASA images courtesy Solar Dynamics Observatory and Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager science teams. Sunspot number data from the NOAA National Geophysical Data Center. NASA animation by Robert Simmon. Caption adapted from a story by Tony Phillips, Science@NASA.

Note: The blue font words and links are clickable hotlinks

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=DIOZy9GDeQ

FOR SALE

Icom 706 MKII Transceiver	\$1000
Icom A4 Antenna Tuner	\$300
MFJ Switching Power Supply	\$100
Little Tarheel Antenna including: tripod with radials kit	\$300
(2) Icom IC-208H Transceiver (2m & 70cm) including: mobile antenna	\$250
Icom IC-W32 HT including: DC Charger & Speaker Microphone	\$90
Yesu FT 60 HT radio	\$90

Contact: Jeff jsmxx13@aol.com



What can you do for Field Day this year?

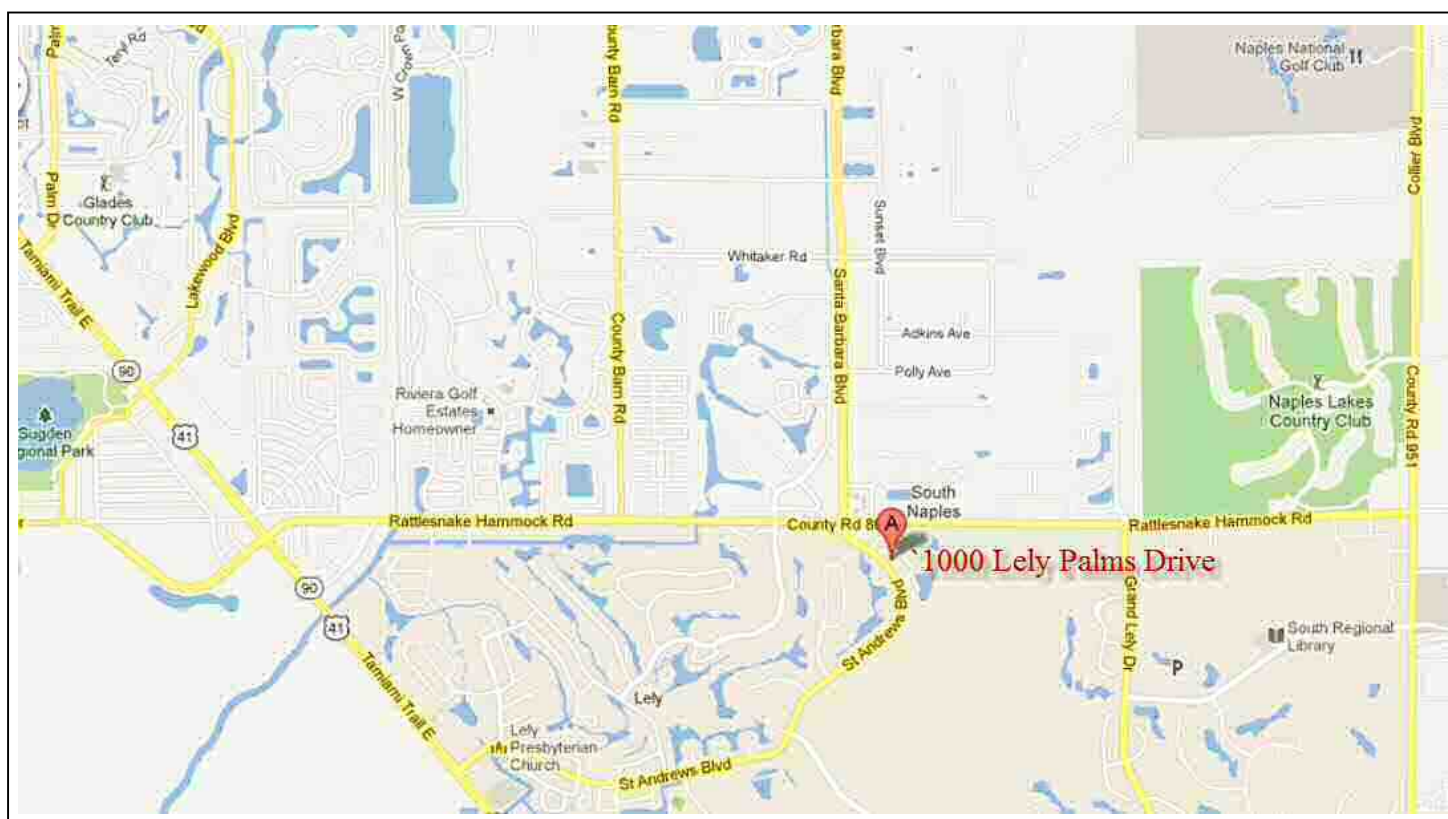


Lely Palms Chapter 152 meets every second Thursday of the month

at the Lely Palms Manor, Next Luncheon Meeting: April 11th 12:30pm

1000 Lely Palms Blvd.

Naples, FL 34114



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

Adopted 28 February 2006

Revised 23 January 2007

Revised 25 August 2009

Revised 26 March 2013

PREAMBLE

The AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC. (HEREINAFTER CALLED THE ARASWF) is a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida (**Chapter 617**), to further Amateur Radio in the public interest through cooperation, operating efficiency, information exchange, programs, and activities including, but not limited to, the following objectives:

- To promote cooperation with other organizations and agencies, and to promote the advancement of public service and safety through amateur radio communications;
- To promote participation of its members in emergency communications so that the safety of the public may better be served;
- To assist its members and all other radio amateurs with an ongoing education program to improve their technical proficiency as amateur radio operators;
- To operate a public service net and to promote participation in the net by radio amateurs thus training them in communications techniques;
- To own, operate and maintain communication repeaters to extend the range of mobile and/or other types of communications by club members;
- To promote, from time to time, contests in which operating skills may be improved, issue certificates of merit, promote social programs, and sponsor activities for and on behalf of its membership;
- To publish monthly a publication to be known as the “ARASWF Newsletter”, which shall be made available to its members and others qualified to receive it. This newsletter shall be considered the official publication of the ARASWF, and members may elect to receive it by electronic mail, pursuant to such rules as may be adopted by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 1 – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: There shall be four classes of membership, namely active, family, honorary and life.

Section 2: Active membership is open to anyone holding a valid amateur radio license and who has made application and paid any and all fees and dues in accordance with these bylaws. Active members in good standing shall be granted all the rights, privileges and obligations of membership, including the right to vote and hold office.

Section 3: Family membership shall be open to anyone holding a valid amateur radio license, **which** by reason of being related to an active member in good standing and who is an immediate member of the active member's household residing at the same address, has made application according to the bylaws. A family member shall be granted all the rights, privileges and obligations of membership, including the right to vote and hold office, but shall not be required to pay dues.

Section 4: Honorary membership may be granted on an individual basis to persons in the community who have a bona fide interest in ARASWF activities. Such membership shall be proposed by the Executive Board and confirmed by a majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote at a duly held membership business meeting. Persons proposed for honorary membership need not be licensed radio amateurs, need not be members, nor shall they be required to pay dues or fees as may be prescribed in these bylaws. Honorary members shall be extended the rights and privileges of active membership, but shall not be eligible to vote or hold office.

Section 5: Life membership may be granted to an individual active member who has provided outstanding service and dedication to the ARASWF. An individual may be proposed for life membership by any active or family member of the ARASWF who is eligible to vote, who presents the proposal to the Executive Board for consideration. The award of life membership must be approved by a majority vote of the 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. A life member shall be granted all the rights, privileges and obligations of membership, including the right to vote and hold office, but shall be shall not be required to pay dues.

Section 6: ARASWF membership is a privilege and is subject to continuing compliance with FCC rules [47 C.F.R. §97] and IARU Ethical and Operating Guidelines. Members must comply with these conditions to remain in good standing with the ARASWF. Expulsion from membership may be **affected** in cases of qualification falsification, repeated violations of ARASWF repeater or access code privileges, intentional use of illegal amateur radio procedures, or repeated violations of amateur radio rules of operation. **A member may also be expelled in cases of a member's misconduct that without reasonable justification reflects negatively upon the ARASWF or any other member(s), and/or the member has been unreasonably disruptive, unreasonably argumentative, rude and/or insulting at more than one ARASWF meeting and/or more than one other ARASWF activity.**

The expulsion process is specified in Article 10, Section 3.

~~Expulsion is effected by a recommendation approved by a majority vote of officers and directors present at a duly held Executive Board meeting, written notification to the member offering said member and/or legal counsel or other representative the opportunity to oppose the recommendation of expulsion, and a majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote at a duly held membership business meeting.~~

ARTICLE 2 - DUES

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 business meeting in January of each year.

Section 2: If any dues are not received by April 1 in any year, the member shall be removed from the membership rolls, and ARASWF membership shall cease immediately. The Secretary shall, provide a dues notice to each member, and provide an opportunity to remediate any delinquency before April 1st. The office of any Executive Board member whose membership dues have lapsed beyond April 1st shall be considered vacated.

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 Executive Board. 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 the ARASWF.

Section 5: Past, non-current members may be reinstated to active membership 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 officers and 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

Section 1: The affairs of the ARASWF shall be administered by a Executive Board. The Executive Board shall consist of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Immediate Past President
- Up to four 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 of the ARASWF 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 minimum age limit established.

Section 3: The number of members of the Executive Board may be increased or decreased by a majority vote of members present and eligible to vote at a duly held ARASWF membership 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.

Section 5: If the 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, a 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

ARTICLE 4 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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.

Section 2: Nominations from the floor shall be taken from the membership at the monthly membership business meeting for November.

Section 3: Immediately following nominations from the floor, the President will declare nominations closed, and a majority vote of eligible members present and eligible to vote shall determine the election of officers from the slate of nominations.

Section 4: The installation of new officers will take place at the December membership meeting.

ARTICLE 5 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1: It shall be the duty of the President to call and preside at Executive Board meetings, to preside at regular and special meetings of the ARASWF, and provide ARASWF guidance and leadership including, but not limited to, the establishment of committees for special interests as deemed advisable. These activities may include, but shall not be limited to:

- ARASWF Newsletter
- Emergency Preparedness
- Technical Programs
- Education
- Public Relations
- Interference
- Field Day
- QCWA
- Ad Hoc Committees
- DXpeditions

The President shall also perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of President.

Section 2: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to preside at all meetings in the absence of the President, to assist the President in the performance of his duties, to be the program chairperson at the regular monthly membership business meetings, and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of Vice President..

Section 3: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep all ARASWF records, to initiate notices of all ARASWF meetings, to report to the membership of the ARASWF all decisions and actions of the Executive Board as recorded in the minutes of such meetings, to record the minutes of regular and special membership meetings, to handle all correspondence pertaining to ARASWF

matters, to retain copies of correspondence, and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of Secretary. Upon retirement from office, the Secretary shall transfer to the successor, or the President, all minutes, ARASWF records, supplies, and other ARASWF property in his/her possession.

Section 4: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to maintain accounts of record and report monthly to the Executive Board any income, expenditures, and bank balances and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of Treasurer. Upon retirement from office, the Treasurer shall transfer to the successor or the President all funds, account books, all financial records and other ARASWF property in his/her possession.

Section 5: It shall be the duty of the Directors, in conjunction with the officers, to determine the club policies and to pass upon all issues concerning the welfare of the ARASW, 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 the officers, to protect the assets of the ARASWF, to maintain inventories of all equipment, to make available to all qualified members short-term use of ARASWF test equipment, to examine and accept equipment donated to the ARASWF, and to assure that the installation and operation of ARASWF equipment is in compliance with the rules and regulations of the FCC.

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

Section 1: The Treasurer shall deposit all funds of the ARASWF in a manner to be approved by the Executive Board.

Section 2: Only the Treasurer, President, Vice President, and Secretary shall be authorized to sign checks in payment of debts of the ARASWF.

Section 3: Any expenditure that is **greater than \$500.00 in total, or greater than \$500 in aggregate payments over a one-year period**, must first be approved by a majority of the Executive Board and subsequently approved by a majority of members present and eligible to vote at a duly held membership business meeting of the ARASWF.

Section 4: Any expenditure that is \$250.00 or greater but less than \$500.00 must have the approval of a majority of members of the Executive Board.

Section 5: Any expenditure that is \$500.00 or greater must first be approved by a majority of the Executive Board and subsequently approved by a majority of members present and eligible to vote at a duly held membership business meeting of the ARASWF.

ARTICLE 7 - MEETINGS

Section 1: The regularly monthly membership business meeting of the ARASWF shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month unless otherwise scheduled by the Executive Board for a legitimate reason.

Section 2: The annual meeting of the ARASWF shall be held in the month of December of each year at a location, date and time designated by the Executive Board. The December meeting will be a social gathering for the purpose of installing new officers and will include brief annual reports from the officers and awards for outstanding member service to the ARASWF. The December meeting will be held no later than the end of the second week of December pending the arrangements of the committee appointed by the President to plan the meeting.

Section 3: Notice of all regular, special and board meetings may be made by oral or written notice to the membership. Such notice may be communicated in person, by telephone, telegraph, e-mail, radio, teletype, mail, or any form of electronic communication or transmission. Posting notice of such meetings in the ARASWF Newsletter that is distributed to the membership by e-mail shall satisfy the notification requirements of this section.

Section 4: The regular monthly business meetings of the ARASWF shall be primarily technical or informative and cover ARASWF business requiring membership attention and/or approval, except that the annual meeting held in December shall be primarily social.

Section 5: A quorum of nine (9) members, two (2) of whom must be members of the Executive Board, shall be required to hold and conduct a regular membership business meeting. A quorum, once established, shall not be broken by withdrawal of members from the meeting.

Section 6: The President shall have the authority to cancel or postpone a regularly scheduled meeting in case of emergency, holiday, or unavailability of meeting place.

Section 7: Special meetings of the ARASWF may be called by the Executive Board to discuss and transact specific and/or imperative business where a decision from the membership is required.

Section 8: ARASWF Executive Board' meetings will be called by the President as necessary, announced in the ARASWF Newsletter or on the ARASWF repeater. All Executive Board meetings are open to all voting members.

Section 9: A quorum at meetings of the Executive Board shall consist of a majority of the membership of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 8 – ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1: The following shall be the regular order of business at all regular or special meetings of the ARASWF:

- A. Meeting called to order.
- B. Introduction of members, guests, visitors, and new members.
- C. Reading and approval of the minutes of the preceding meeting.
- D. Officers' reports.
- E. Committee reports.
- F. Old business.
- G. New business.
- H. General welfare.
- I. Special feature.
- J. Adjournment

Section 2: Unless specifically provided for elsewhere in the bylaws "Robert's Rules of Order" shall govern all parliamentary procedures for the ARASWF at regular, special, committee and board meetings.

ARTICLE 9 – AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF BYLAWS

Section 1: Any proposal to amend or repeal these bylaws must be submitted to the Executive Board. If the proposed amendment has the approval of a majority of the Executive Board, the Board will instruct the Secretary to notify the membership of the proposed amendment at least ten days prior to the meeting at which the vote is to take place. Such notice may be communicated in person, by telephone, telegraph, e-mail, radio, teletype, mail, or any form of electronic communication or transmission. Posting notice of such proposed amendment in the ARASWF Newsletter that is distributed to the membership by e-mail shall satisfy the notification requirements of this section.

Section 2: These bylaws may be amended or repealed by a majority of members present and eligible to vote at a duly held membership business meeting.

Section 3: No amendment or repeal of these bylaws can be made which is not in harmony with the laws of the State of Florida governing the formation and chartering of a not-for-profit corporation.

ARTICLE 10 - MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1: In the event of the dissolution or liquidation of the ARASWF, all property or assets owned by the ARASWF shall be liquidated by the Executive Board and all funds donated to a charity to be determined by a majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote at a duly held membership business meeting.

Section 2: Confidential ARASWF repeater programming codes shall be made available only to Executive Board members and those persons authorized by the Executive Board to perform work on the ARASWF repeater(s).

Section 3: The process and procedures for affecting expulsion of a member are specified below in Sections 3.1 through 3.7.

Section 3.1: A member under consideration for expulsion is referred to as "THE member" and "members" includes all ARASWF members including officers and directors. Except as noted below in 3.5 regarding delivery from the Secretary to THE member, delivery by e-mail shall be sufficient. "Secretary" refers to the ARASWF Secretary. "the Meeting" refers to each respective membership business meeting at which a member expulsion hearing is on the agenda. "... that process ..." refers to the applicable, actual member exclusion process.

Section 3.2: These Bylaws neither prohibit nor require that any member be personally warned regarding his or her possibility of expulsion from membership.

Section 3.3: The membership expulsion process shall be initiated by a written complaint by a member and shall be based upon asserted proof of: (1) THE member's falsified qualification(s), (2) two or more violations by THE member of the same or different ARASWF repeater operating protocol(s), (3) two or more violations by THE member of the same or different IARU Ethical and Operating Guidelines, (3) THE member's misconduct that without reasonable justification reflects negatively upon the ARASWF and/or any other member(s), and/or (4) THE member has been unreasonably disruptive or unreasonable argumentative, rude and/or insulting at more than one ARASWF meeting and/or more than one other ARASWF activity. The expulsion process shall cease immediately if and when THE member resigns. THE member may resign by written notice of his or her resignation delivered to the Secretary anytime before the ARASWF members vote on a motion to exclude THE member at a member exclusion hearing.

Section 3.4: To the greatest extent allowed by applicable law, that expulsion process, including unnecessary disclosure of information derived from that process, shall always (including after conclusion of that process) be kept as private and as confidential as possible, and that process shall cease immediately if and when THE member resigns prior to being expelled. If THE member resigns prior to being expelled, and commencing at the effective date of THE member's resignation, unnecessary dissemination by members of then generally undisclosed information regarding that process is prohibited, which confidential information may include the existence of that process and/or the name of THE member. In any event, the existence of that process shall not be unnecessarily disclosed by any member prior to placement of notice of the expulsion hearing on the ARASWF agenda for the Meeting, and no member shall unnecessarily disclose THE member's name until after THE member's expulsion hearing commences. No member

(except THE member) shall make any inquiry to any other member or have any other communications with any other member with regard to any unnecessary disclosure of information regarding that process. These restrictions shall not apply to the ARASWF Executive Board members to the extent necessitated by the respective Executive Board member's participation in that process.

Section 3.5: The asserted infractions, violations, and/or misconduct by THE member shall be brought by the complaining member (privately and confidentially) in writing to the Secretary, who shall promptly deliver that complaint to the other Executive Board members. Upon the Executive Board's private and confidential deliberation of that complaint, a Executive Board majority affirmative vote may move the process forward as an agenda item at the Meeting, in which event the Secretary shall promptly get written notice to THE member, either by hand delivery by sealed envelope to THE member, or by first class mail, return receipt requested, addressed to THE member's address on record with the ARASWF. Such notice shall be delivered to THE member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the Meeting. An envelope shall be addressed to THE member and be noted on the front as being "PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL." The written notice shall: (1) include a copy of the ARASWF Bylaws; (2) list all of the violations asserted in the complaint; (3) specify the date, place and starting time of the Meeting; and (4) give notice that THE member may respond (including defenses) in writing to the Secretary, and that THE member's response must be received by the Secretary at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled date of the Meeting. As soon as possible after receipt of THE member's response, if any, the Secretary shall deliver THE member's response to the other Executive Board Members.

Section 3.6: To the extent reasonably possible, and at least five (5) days prior to the Meeting, the Secretary shall inform the ARASWF general membership only that a "member exclusion meeting" is scheduled to be conducted at and during the Meeting. Such notice can be by the Secretary's e-mail and/or by any delivery of the Meeting's agenda that lists the agenda item, such as only: "Member Expulsion Hearing." Neither the name of THE member nor any of the allegations shall be included in any such notice.

Section 3.7: Discussion at the member expulsion hearing shall be limited to matters directly relevant to that expulsion, such as the complaint's allegations and THE member's defenses, etc. Only members present at the member expulsion hearing can vote on a motion to expel. A majority vote in favor of expulsion shall result in expulsion of THE member, and if expelled THE member shall forfeit ARASWF dues previously paid. At the Executive Board's discretion, votes on the motion to expel can be by secret written ballot. The chair of the member expulsion hearing can be the ARASWF President or any other Executive Board member as decided by vote of the Executive Board members present at that hearing.

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 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 20px;"></div> |

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

Club Information

Next Meeting Time: February 26th @ 7:00PM

Meeting Location:
American Red Cross
2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive
Naples, FL

Club Repeaters:

- ARASWF FM - WB2QLP 146.670 mHz (-600 kHz) PL 136.5 HZ
- ARASWF D-Star – AA4PP 145.490 mHz (-600 kHz)/441.5 mHz (5.0kHz)
- Collier EOC – WB2WPA 147.030 mHz (+600 kHz)

Club Officers:

President: Uli Altvater – AG0X@araswf.org
Vice President: Eric Gissendaner – KF4IXA@araswf.org
Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bills – W9KB@araswf.org
Director: George Tomlinson – AA4GT@araswf.org
Director: Gary Lee – K8YMN@araswf.org
Director: Henrietta Horvay – KA1JVN@araswf.org
Director: Frank Halas – W4RBW@araswf.org
Past President: Bill Krauss – N1MMQ@araswf.org
Newsletter Editor: Ken Bills – W9KB@araswf.org
Webmaster: Bob Graf – W2HI@araswf.org

Club Website:

<http://www.araswf.org>

Visit
the



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

Web Site

www.araswf.org