



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMXI No. 5 - The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
May 15, 2013

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**The next Club Meeting will be held May 28th 2013 at 7:00pm
at the Red Cross - 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive Naples, FL**

Nickels & Dimes

This past weekend marked the 37th annual City Dock Canoe Race, while not a specific radio event; it was a comical *signal* of the official start of the summer season here in SW Florida.

Another signal in the air is the building Field Day chatter heard on the bands, club bulletin boards, and reflectors.

I plan to talk about this on Tuesday, May 28th at our next and last membership meeting until September. We will also send out an email inquiring about your interest and any ideas you would like to share to improve Field Day. The Board plans to listen to the membership and 'right size' our effort this year. Please either attend the next meeting or take the time to respond and let us know your thoughts on Field Day.

We recently finished the Florida QSO Party with a about 870 contacts in the log. While this was an improvement over last year, only had four operators made all the Q's. Also, last year we ran a 5A Field Day station with many radios wanting operators Saturday night and early Sunday morning. It would be much easier to setup a 3A station and focus on bonus points to make up the difference if we only have a handful of operators. We would like to know ahead of time what the operator schedule is going to be to help make this decision.

A number of members have suggested making Field Day a more social event for friends and family. While diehards would rather sit in front of their radios, it seems others might prefer simply stopping out to Veterans Park for a visit and getting something to eat instead. A more social Field Day still requires manpower and organization. So again please, respond to the Field Day email and indicate your level of interest and willingness to help make this a great event.

Stay tuned, there will be Field Day committee meetings, an antenna work party this year, so plan to get involved and make it happen!

May 28th also marks our last VE session until September. I would like to personally thank all of the VE's -- George-AA4GT, Mark-AC4ZM, Cal-AK4QP, Ernie-KA1VY, Peter-KK4PG, Walt-KU1Q, Roy-KW4G, Dick-N1DO, Bob-W0OB, Ray-W1FF, Bob-W2HI, Dave-WB8VQU, and Don-WD4FLY who helped serve over thirty candidates this season get either their first license and/or an upgrade since September. That is how this hobby and club grows. Again, thanks for all the extra hours you all committed to this past season.

Also, according to the ARRL VE Website, kudos are in order to both Walt-KU1Q with 40 sessions and Roy-KW4G with 39 sessions in their logs.

Ken-W9KB
ARASWF Secretary/Treasurer

Monthly link - Ever wonder what your standing over? Check out this link:

<http://www.freemaptools.com/tunnel-to-other-side-of-the-earth.htm>

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Membership Meeting held at the Naples American Red Cross.
Tuesday, April 23th, 2013

Officers and
Directors Present: Uli Altvater, AGØX – President
Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary/Treasurer
George Tomlinson, AA4GT – Director
Gary Lee, K8YMN – Director
Frank Halas, W4RBW – Director

Absent: Bill Krauss, N1MMQ – Past President
Eric Gissendaner, KF4IXA – Vice President
Henrietta Horvay, KA1JVN – Director

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called To Order: The President called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Twenty six 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: Harry – The meeting minutes were accepted dispensed with since they were published previously in the March 2013 ARASWF Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Ken-W9KB reported that as of April 23th the club's bank balance was \$4,630.56. No expenses were incurred this month, \$25 was collected in dues and \$320 from Field Day Raffle sales were deposited this month.

Officers' Reports: W9KB reported that that at the previous VE session, two candidates successfully passed their exams. Craig Berntsen (WA3HLI) passed his General's examination and Scott Moore (now KK4QVE) passed his Technician's exam. Both plan to upgrade next month.

Old Business: Uli-AGØX reported on the 146.670 repeater improvements. The Internet has been installed and is now working along with Echolink. The retuned duplexers have been reinstalled. A new D-Star repeater is up and running at the site AB4NP (145.270 - 600 kHz)

The 146.985 mHz repeater on Macro Island will be converted with the addition of DVRPT external controller board. Timing 2-3 weeks.

W9KB reported that Filed Day Raffle tickets sales are going well. This month it is possible to attend the FMARC meeting next week and tickets will be sold at their membership meeting. George-AA4GT sold (7) tickets at the Marco Island Club Luncheon.

W9KB reported that at the last Board meeting it was agreed that the Naples Information Net should be suspended from May 1st through October 1st. Summer months historically have been slow and many of the net control operators have migrated north for the season.

New Business: Ken- W9KB discussed the upcoming Florida QSO Party which will be held at the Red Cross this weekend April 27-28th. AA4PP will defend last year's first place club category finish. A practice session was held last Tuesday (April 16th) to acquaint operators with the logging software and radio operation.

W9KB also discussed the 2013 Field Day project. Frank – W4RBW has secured Veterans Park again for this year's operation. Committee meeting will be schedule to organize the setup and operational duties latter in May and early June.

Presentation: Ken – W9KB gave a presentation on 'Contesting Best Practices'. There was a good amount of discussion and participation; a follow-up presentation will be made in the future to expand upon the basics covered this month.

50/50 Raffle: Dave - WB8VQU won the raffle this month, splitting \$51 with the club.

Adjournment: George-AA4GT moved to adjourn at 8:55pm, it was seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Bills – W9KB
Secretary

Note: May Board Meeting has been rescheduled for May 21st – Minutes unavailable

New Licensees this month:

Congratulations!

Scott Moore – KK4QVE (T)

Craig Bernten – WA3HLI (G)



Contest Calendar:

May 2013

His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 18 to 1200Z, May 19
Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 18 to 0200Z, May 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 20
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 22
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, May 22 to 0400Z, May 23
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 25 to 2400Z, May 26
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 26 to 0300Z, May 27

June 2013

10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	0001Z, Jun 1 to 2359Z, Jun 2
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Jun 1
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 1 to 1200Z, Jun 2
Maritimes QSO Party	1200Z, Jun 1 to 0300Z, Jun 2
VK Shires Contest	0600Z, Jun 8 to 0600Z, Jun 9
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 8
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jun 8 to 2359Z, Jun 9
Portugal Day Contest	1200Z, Jun 8 to 1159Z, Jun 9
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 8 to 1500Z, Jun 9
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 8 to 1600Z, Jun 9
ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 8 to 0300Z, Jun 10
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Jun 12 to 0400Z, Jun 13
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 15 to 2400Z, Jun 16
SARL Youth Day Sprint	0700Z-1100Z, Jun 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 17
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 22 to 1200Z, Jun 23
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 22 to 1200Z, Jun 23
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 22 to 1400Z, Jun 23
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 22 to 2100Z, Jun 23
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 26
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Jun 26 to 0400Z, Jun 27

ARASWF Field Day Raffle



HM189GPS Microphone not included

Tickets are \$10 each *ONLY 20 TICKETS AVAILABLE....* this is a limited raffle (100 tickets total)

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) or \$400

2nd Prize - \$100

3rd Prize - \$25

Winners need not be present.

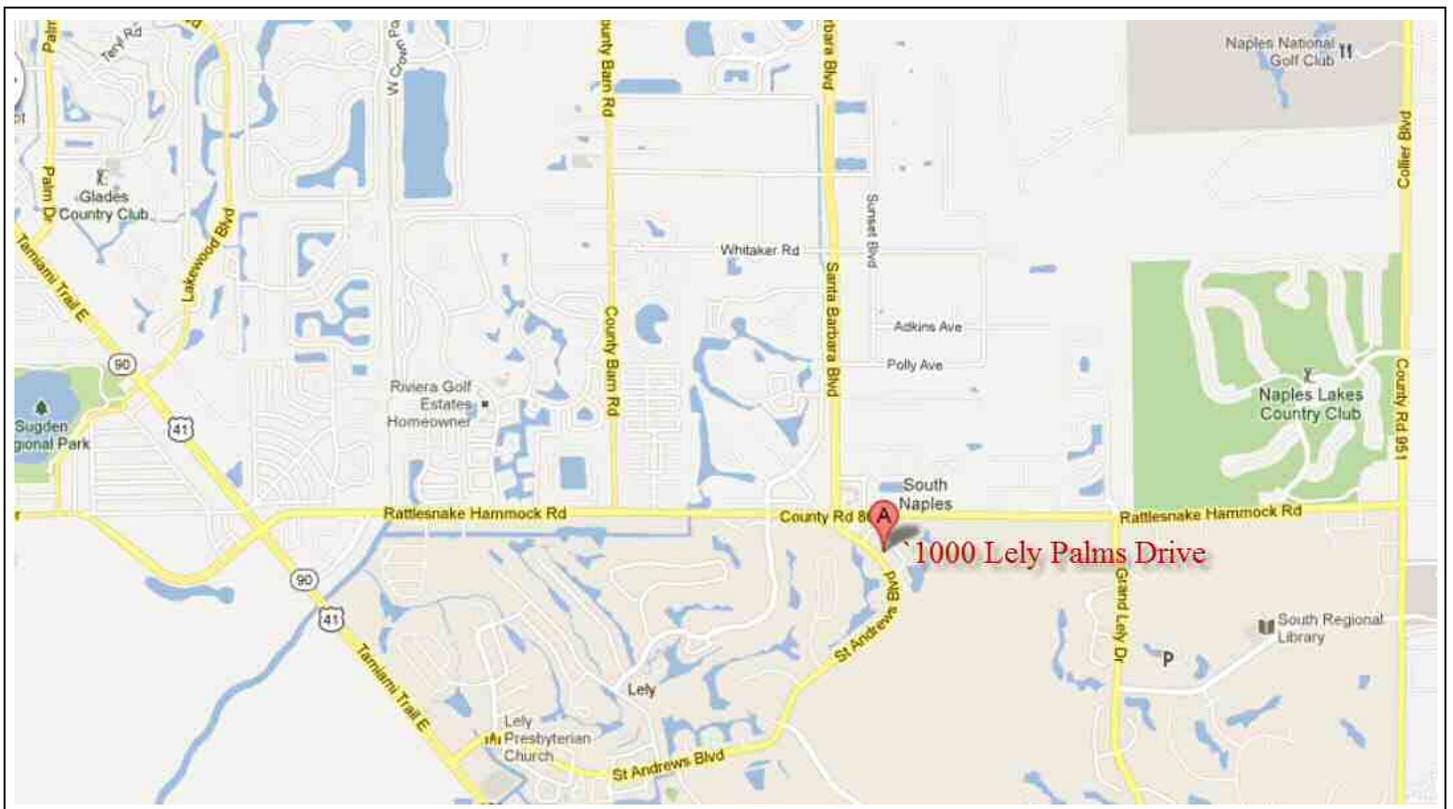


Lely Palms Chapter 152 meets every second Thursday of the month

at the Lely Palms Manor, Next Luncheon Meeting: June 13th 12:30pm

1000 Lely Palms Blvd.

Naples, FL 34114





Top features In N1MM Logger that you should be using, but aren't

Tom Wagner, N1MM

Tips:

- Print this list double-sided and highlight those features you want to try this contest season.
- Print the key assignment in the link below for reference use during the contest:
<http://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php?page=Key+Assignments+Short+List&structure=N1MM+Logger+Documentation>

1. CW - Enter sends messages. Users of this feature love it. Non-users just don't get it. What ESM does - particularly on CW - is to reduce stress. Instead of having to remember what button to press to send what message, you almost always send <enter>. Trust me, you will be very surprised had how much this reduces the stress during a contest, especially when you are tired. See tip #2 for how to send a repeat while using ESM.

Use Ctrl+M to toggle 'Enter Sends Message' mode. The function key "convention" used by N1MM logger and most other logging programs is:

F1=CQ
 F2=exchange
 F3=TU/QSL/QRZ
 F4=your call
 F5=his call

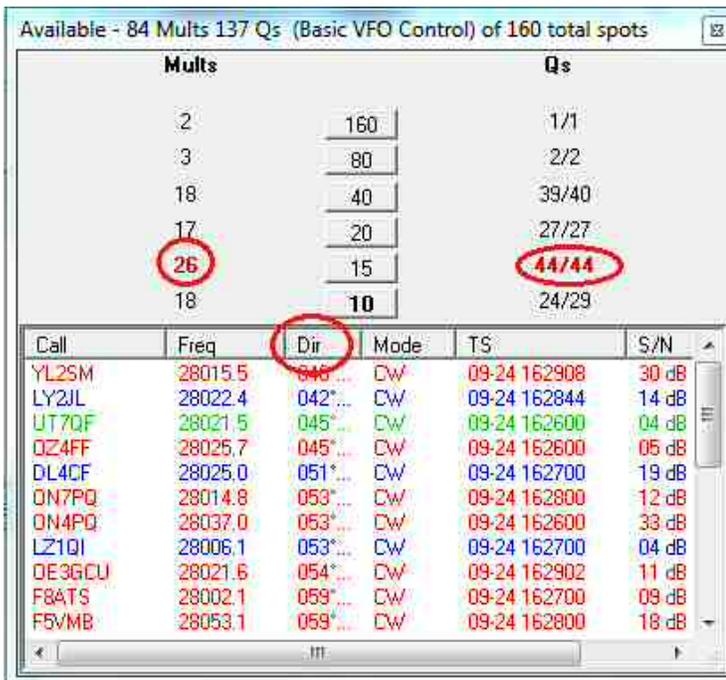
ESM mode: S&P - CW or SSB	ESM mode: Run - CW or SSB
1. <enter> sends F4, your call	1. <enter> sends F1, "CQ"
2. <enter> sends F2, your exchange and logs the QSO	2. type call, <enter> sends F5(his call)+F2(exchange)
NOTE - for SSB, put a single blank space in the F5 message - speak the callsign instead - because of the blank, N1MM will skip F5 and send the F2 message	
3. type his exchange, <enter> sends F3 (QSL/QRZ/TU) and logs QSO	3. type his exchange, <enter> sends F3 (QSL/QRZ/TU) and logs QSO

2. = (equal key) to resend a message - Will send the last message key (F1-F12) again. If the last message sent was the exchange, it will send that. If it was you dumping your call in a pileup, it will send your call. Easy!

3. Alt+Q to find last CQ frequency- Jumps to the last CQ frequency on this band (active bandmap) and will clear all textboxes in the Entry Window. You can use this when you tune around trying to get a few S&P QSOs during a slow run. Jump to a spot, work it, and press Alt-Q to get back to your CQ frequency and resume running. See also Tip #16 below.

4. Available window: sort stations by beam heading. To sort the stations by beam heading, click on the column heading for beam heading. (You can click on any of the columns to toggle ascending/descending sort on that column.) This tip is useful in the afternoon when you are no longer running, but there are spots for stations coming in at all different beam headings. Sort them, and work them in beam heading order to speed up the process of clearing a band of unworked spots. (See picture below tip #5)

5. **Available window spot/mult counts.** The numbers to the left of the band buttons show the number of unique, unworked mults on that band. The numbers to the right of the band buttons show the number of unworked and total stations available on that band. Use these numbers to help you judge what bands are open, when to change bands, and which band to change to. (See pic below.)



6. **Ctl-up/down, Alt-Ctl-up/down to jump from spot to spot.** These keystrokes will jump to the next spot or mult on this band. This is especially useful while trying to S&P in between running stations. Use Ctl-up/down to find a spot to work, work him and use Alt-Q to resume running.

7. **Check partial - Guess!** If you can touch-type, you should watch the check partial window for calls. Especially on SSB, you may be able to guess the station's callsign as you are speaking it. If you guess correctly, you have just shaved a few seconds off the QSO. If the rate is good, this will make a big difference.



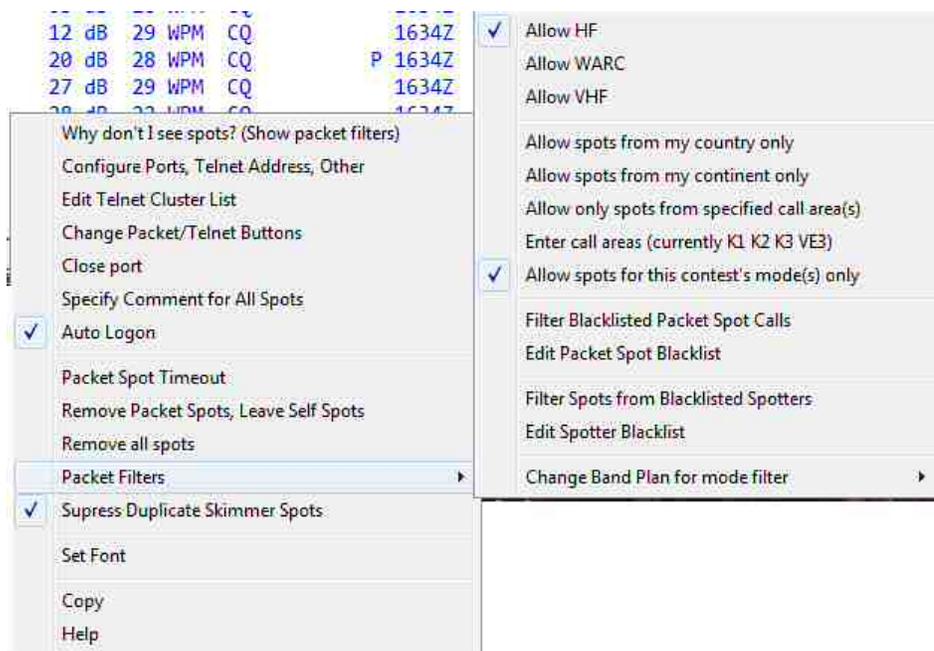
8. **Alt-D to delete a spot.** It's annoying to come across the same wrong spot over & over. Use Alt-D to delete it. If you keep seeing the same wrong spot, or bad spots from the same spotter, use the blacklist functions (right click on the spot on the bandmap to access) to ban the spot or spotter.

NB: Q. What do you call a spotted call frequency with nobody there?
A. Your new run frequency!

9. **Ctrl-Enter to set a split.** You hear 9A1A calling CQ on 7050 "listening 214.5". Type 214.5 and press ctrl-enter to split to 7214.5. Another split tip: did you know you can set up an ssb message that will speak the split frequency?

Use @ to voice the current receive frequency if you have recorded files for individual letters and numbers. The frequency will be voiced to the nearest 100 Hz, dropping .0 if receiving on an even KHz frequency. This capability can be used to avoid having to rerecord CQ messages on 40m split. Here is an example: C:\Program Files\N1MM logger\wav\{operator}\CQ Listening.wav@C:\Program Files\N1MM logger\wav\{operator}\AndThisFreq.wav
With appropriate recorded wav files it will voice messages like: November1 Mike Mike listening 7054 and this frequency.

10. **Packet Filters** - Right click on the packet window to access the packet filters. Many options here -- you might want to see spots from the whole world at times, and at others you might only want to see spots from K1, K2 & K3. Caution - use the "Why don't I see spots?" option to diagnose problems.



11. **Up/down arrow to tune the radio.**

- Up Arrow - Tune radio down (down in freq, but UP the bandmap) 100 Hz on SSB, 20 Hz on CW (adjustable in the configurer). K3, Flex, Orion, FT-1000MP, FT-890, FT-920, FT-990 and FT-1000 and all Kenwood radios
 - In S&P - pressing the up/down arrows will turn off RIT and tune your main VFO.
 - In Running mode - it will turn on your RIT and tune the RIT.
- Down Arrow - Tune radio up 100 Hz on SSB, 20 Hz on CW (adjustable). See Up Arrow information above

12. **Alt+F9 toggle antennas** - toggle through all the antennas for that band. The selected antenna will show in the status pane. Multiple antennas for each band can be set up in the Configurer Antenna tab. Antennas can be rotated from all networked computers if desired.

13. **Ctrl+Q edit a spot** - Quick Edit mode, go back one qso in the log. Enter logs and Escape discards the changes made. Press multiple times to go back multiple Qs. This is the preferred way to make quick edits during a contest.

14. **Alt+' (Alt+singlequote) to set filter width** - toggle between the wide and narrow radio filter for the selected mode (SSB, CW and Digi modes).

15. **Multi-User Partner Mode** - see calls the other station is copying as he types them.

- To indicate which station you want to partner with, right click on it's "cue-ball" in the info window, and select the option "Target for call stacking"
- Tune your radio to the exact frequency of the target station's radio.
- As you type, your partner will see the call you are typing on their Entry Window's callframe. If they have set up partner mode from their side, you will see their typing in your callframe.
- Whoever has control of transmit can choose to work the station in his callsign textbox or they can work the station in the callframe by wiping, then pressing <enter> (ESM) to call the station that is in the callframe.

If you are not on the same frequency, just copy calls and tune off - the calls will be automatically placed in all networked users bandmaps as local spots.

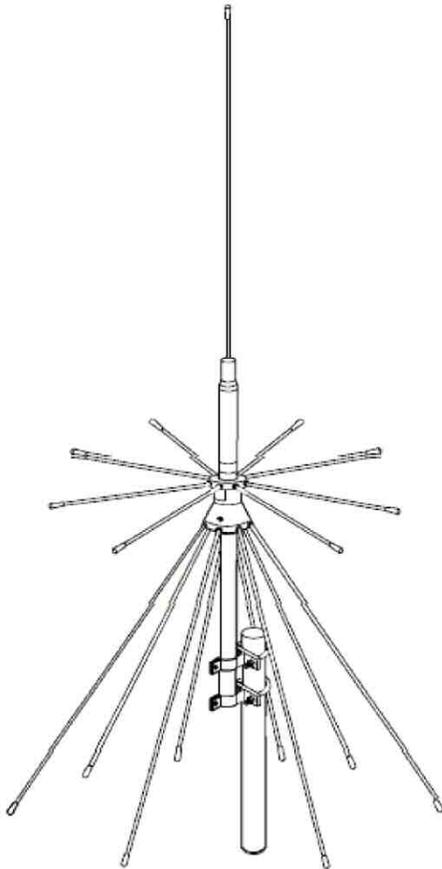
16. **CTRL+Shift+Up/Dn to work spots while running** - Useful for single op, 2 VFOs (SO2V). Moves VFOB/Sub VFO to the next bandmap spot, skipping over the CQ frequency. Then use Pause to switch when the time is right to work the station.

Software Website	User Group Website
http://www.n1mm.com/	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/n1mmlogger/

73,
Tom - N1MM

May Classifieds:

Radio Shack Discone



RadioShack Discone Scanner and Ham Base Station Antenna is our most efficient omnidirectional antenna system, combining a disc antenna with electrically matched radiators. You can use it to receive and transmit a wide range of signals, including amateur radio, aircraft, and other special services, on your scanner or other receiver. The antenna is designed to provide high efficiency when receiving and transmitting signals on selected frequencies.

Your antenna receives VHF and UHF frequencies between 25 MHz and 1300 MHz (1.3 GHz), and transmits effectively at 50, 144, 220, 440, 900, and 1296 MHz. It handles a maximum transmitting output power of 200 watts and provides a standing wave ratio (SWR) efficiency of 1.5:1 or better over the receiving and transmitting spectrum. It is 44-inches high overall, and fits on masts up to 1-1/2-inches in diameter.

\$ 40^{.00}

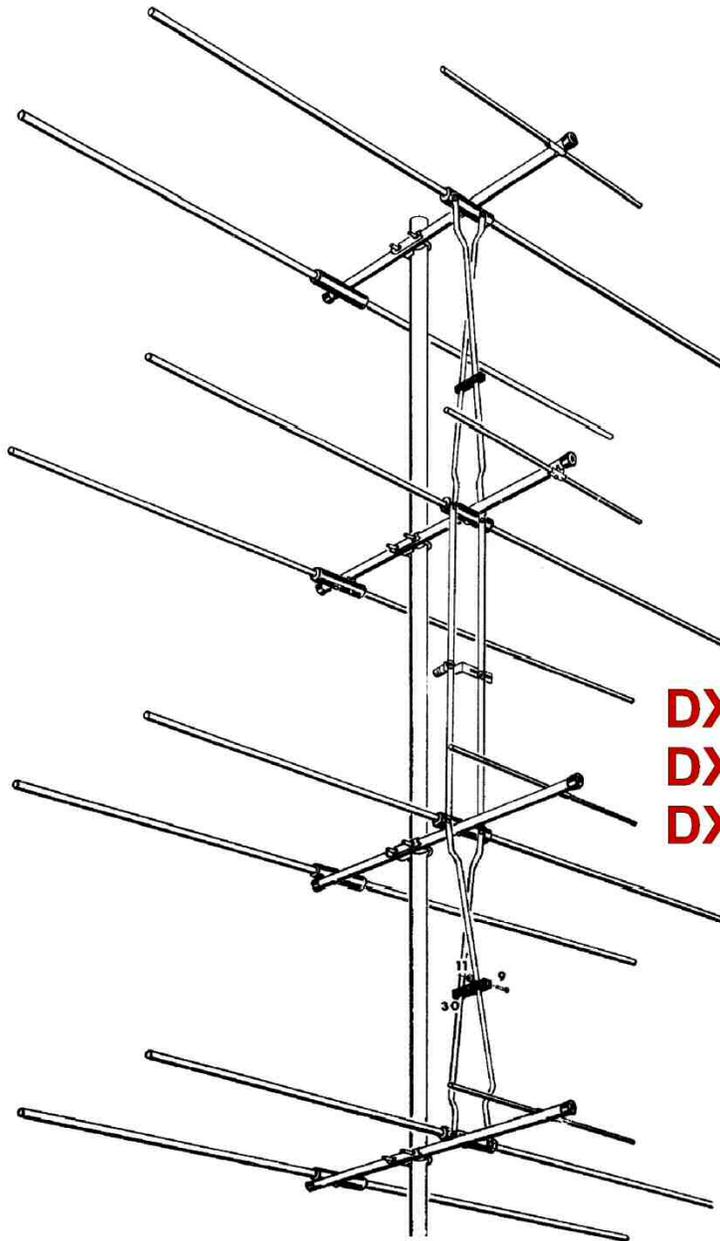


FIGURE 1

**20 ELEMENT
DX - ARRAY**

**DX 120 2M band
DX 220 222 band
DX 420 440 band**

\$ 120.00

THE 20-ELEMENT DX ARRAY PROVIDES 13,2 DBD GAIN WITH 18 DB FRONT-TO-BACK RATIO AND WILL HANDLE 2000 WATTS PEP.

IT PROVIDES A PERFECT MATCH TO 50-OHM COAXIAL CABLE AND ACCEPTS A PL-259 CONNECTOR.

THE VERTICAL SUPPORT MAST, 1-1/2" MAXIMUM OD, IS NOT SUPPLIED

**Icom IC-T8A
6M/2M/440 MHz**



Features :
Triband Operation
Extended Receive
Two RF Levels
Guide Function
DTMF Keypad
Battery Saver
DTMF Encoder
Simple Operation
123 Memories

\$ 80.⁰⁰

The Icom IC-T8A tri-bander covers 50, 144 and 430 (440) MHz.
It even picks up the FM broadcast band with WFM mode.

Items included:

Belt clip
A flexible SMA antenna
BP-197 Battery Case (3 x AA)
Ni-MH BP-200 battery pack
BC-110A battery charger

Only 2.3 x 4.2 x 1.3 inches 10 oz.

Contact Mark-AC4ZM

ac4zm@hotmail.com

(239) 331-9616

Club Information

Next Meeting Time: May 28th @ 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