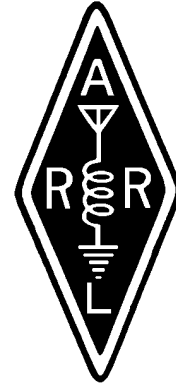




# **Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida Newsletter**



**Vol XIII No 8**

**The Journal of The Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida**

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Club Repeater – 146.67 – (W4YHB)

Club Packet Cluster Node – 145.05 – N1DL

Club CHAT Node (CHAT)

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## **The President's Comments**

October is here, and you know what that means? CQWW SSB contest is right around the corner. This is a great contest and I hope that everyone gets a chance to participate in this one. Also, we're coming to the end of the year for our club. This means that we have to start thinking about nominating and electing new officers. I, unfortunately, will not be able to continue on as President of the club. I have some personal obligations on the way (my first child) and will not be able to devote the time needed for the position of President. I know a lot of you were disappointed with not having a newsletter last month. I am personally very sorry for this. I was partly at fault with not turning in the information that Bill needed to make an adequate newsletter. We all need to try a little harder and get these articles to Bill as soon as possible. Thank you Bill for your patience with us. We are also waiting for some ideas and drawings for the club QSL card. If we ever want to run a Special Event Station or reply to our Contest QSLs, we need to have this done. We can always send a plain card out, but we want ours to be a personal card. So we need everyone's input on this. That's all for now, if there are any suggestions for programs for the meeting or newsletter, please feel free to contact me or the respective officers.

Thanks and 73s de KE4RGH!

## **From the Vice President**

We were lucky again. George went right by us and was I glad to see that. But some of the hams in the area had a work out. All the ones that volunteer and went out to the shelters and worked at the EOC, we need to thank them for doing a fine job and help give all of us Hams a good name. So THANK YOU for being there in the time of need. Hopefully we can go the rest of the hurricane season without any more storms.

Now, how about the HF bands. They have been great, doesn't matter which band you like to work, it was open to the world. The dx cluster N1DL got a workout. I personally enjoy 10 meters and I did work the world, from Japan to South Africa to Europe. I was only running 100 watts and using a beam at 22 ft. in height. Also worked several stations on my 10 meter vertical antenna at 15 ft. I hope you had as much fun as I have had. On October 24 and 25 it should be a great CQ WW DX Contest. If the bands stay up like they have been, you may be able to work your DXCC in one weekend, wouldn't that be great! Hope to meet you on the bands

73 A.D. Randolph – KD4JZT

## Notes from the Secretary

Well our winter season is about to start, but this secretary has already witnessed a major population increase in full time residents. It just might be more congested than ever this year. There are good things that come with "season", increased business for one. Also it's hamfest time, and I believe the majority of us enjoy that. Club elections are coming too.

We have had some small turnouts at the meetings, but that is about to change soon as all of our northern friends come back to town.

We were all very lucky here that Hurricane Georges' missed us completely. Hard to believe if you saw the radar. It was good to see all the preparations made in advance. Also some great work done on the emergency nets. Thanks to those who volunteered and manned the shelters.

See you all at the meeting October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Steve Fleishman KD4VRY

## The Ham Trader

For Sale one TS520 Transceiver covering bands up to 10 meters, with M50 microphone included.

For Sale one 486 computer running Windows 3.11 with 8 megs of RAM.

For Sale one 486 computer running Windows 98 with 16 megs of RAM.

Color monitor, keyboard and mouse come with the system.

Call K2VMD, Paul at 597-8528 for more info.

Mobile Antennas and Parts for Sale by Jim Ackerson WØRFO at 649-5553.

Hamstick CBK-4Ø Carolina Bug Katcher 1Ø-4Ø Meters with 1Ø Meter whip. New 1Ø5.5Ø. Asking \$85.ØØ.

Hamstick 9ØØ7 (2 meters) New \$19.95. Asking \$15.ØØ. Never used.

Hamstick 912Ø (2Ø Meters). New \$19.95. Asking \$15.ØØ. Never used.

ProAm (Similar to Hamstick) 15 Meters. New \$19.95. Asking \$15.ØØ. Never used.

ProAm (Similar to Hamstick) 4Ø Meters. New \$19.95. Asking \$15.ØØ. Never used.

Kenwood MA4ØØØ (2mtrs/44Ømhz) with SO-239 fitting. \$2Ø.ØØ

MaxRad 2mtrs/44Ømhz mag mount. \$3Ø.ØØ.

Comet Mag Mount with SO-239 base. \$15.ØØ

NMO to SO-239 adapter. \$5.ØØ

## The Dinner Meetings

At the Dinner meeting on October 7, we had 25 persons present.

The Cocktail hour went with lots of laughter, and chatter about Band conditions, and Computers, and equipment.

K4FA Matt Baker, Celebrated in September his 90th Birthday

Like always, the food was good and so was the Company.

Our Christmas Party is planed for December 2. Same place like always, at the Pacific 41. As agreed, a women buys a Gift for a Women, and a Man for a Man, for not more than \$3.00. Hope everybody will join us. Tnx 73. De Sigi W2JQ.

## "ARRL Proposes Simplified Amateur License Structure

The ARRL Board has agreed to propose a simplified Amateur Radio licensing structure with four classes. Lengthy discussion and debate during the Board's meeting July 16-18 led to majority support for a plan for four written examination elements to establish amateurs' operational and technical qualifications instead of the present five, and two Morse code examination elements instead of the present three.

Under the plan adopted by the Board, the entry level to Amateur Radio would be known as Class D and would convey the privileges of the present Technician license. The written examination would be at the same level of difficulty as that of the present Technician examination, but consistent with the privileges of the license. All amateurs now licensed as Technicians would become Class D.

The next step would be known as Class C and would convey the privileges of the present General license, but with phone subbands expanded by 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 kHz on 40 meters. Class C would be the entry level to high frequency (HF) operating privileges. To upgrade from Class D to Class C, an amateur would pass a written examination on the operational and technical qualifications required for HF operation and a 5 word per minute Morse code examination. All amateurs now licensed as General, Technician Plus, and Novice would become Class C. The expansion of the telephony sub-bands would result from "reaffirming" of the Novice CW bands that are no longer required for their original purpose.

The third step would be known as Class B and would convey the privileges of the present Advanced license, but with phone subbands expanded by 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 kHz on 40 meters. To upgrade from Class C to Class B, an amateur would pass a more advanced written examination similar in difficulty to the present Element 4A and a 12 word per minute Morse code examination. All amateurs now licensed as Advanced would become Class B. The final step would be known as Class A and would convey the full privileges of the present Amateur Extra Class, with telephony sub-bands expanded by 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 kHz on 40 meters. To upgrade from Class B to Class A, an amateur would be required to pass the most difficult written examination in the sequence. Consistent with the practice in many other countries, no additional Morse code examination would be required beyond 12 words per minute. All amateurs presently licensed as Amateur Extra Class would become Class A.

In their discussions, Board members emphasized that the objective is to rationalize and simplify the amateur licensing structure without reducing the requirements for any class of license. Where reductions in Morse code requirements are proposed, there would be a corresponding increase in written examination standards. On the other hand, Board members were adamant that simplifying the structure should not come at the expense of privileges already earned by amateurs. Therefore, present Novice and Technician Plus licensees, having earned entry-level HF operating privileges, would be granted the new entry-level HF license.

Adoption of the simplification plan marks the culmination of 30 months of work by the Board, during which time the input of literally thousands of ARRL members and other amateurs and prospective amateurs was considered. The Board debated a wide variety of options including both smaller and larger numbers of license classes, higher and lower qualification levels, and different privileges. Nine of the 15 Directors voted in favor of the plan, with six opposed. Following the meeting ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, observed, "The debate was at times contentious and the result was not unanimous. Some Board members preferred greater simplification; others were uncomfortable with some of the changes being proposed. However, every Board member, without exception, left the meeting knowing that each of his or her colleagues did what they believe is best for the future of Amateur Radio."

Members are urged to contact their ARRL directors to comment on this proposal. E-mail addresses are on page 10 of any issue of QST. Members also may comment on the proposal via the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org> or via e-mail at [restrux@arrl.org](mailto:restrux@arrl.org).

## The Editor's Musings

It was obvious that there was no newsletter published last month. The reason for this was that the editor did not receive sufficient reports for the production of the newsletter. Without material in the form of the routine reports, which were requested via e-mail, this editor is not able to prepare the newsletter. Reports and or comments are desired from all officers and committee chairmen and desired on or before the second Saturday of the month. Reports may be mailed to my home address or e-mailed to [nfn06232@naples.net](mailto:nfn06232@naples.net).

This month there will be nominations for the officer to lead the club during the 1999 year. In KE4RGH's comments, he notes that he has to step down because of family commitments. Come to the meeting prepared to nominate our new officers.

The summary of a recent ARRL board meeting has been included on page three for your reading and comment. Consider this proposal and forward your comments to ARRL using the e-mail addresses listed.

## Meeting Schedule

Oct. 27, 1998 @ 7:30pm	Club Meeting at Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church, Rattlesnake Hammock Road and Polly Avenue, Naples
Nov. 4, 1998 @ 6:00pm	Call Sigi for Reservations 598-1353
Nov. 14, 1998	Deadline for December newsletter for reports, etc.
Nov. 24, 1998 @ 7:30pm	Club Meeting

## Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

PO Box 990146, Naples, FL 34116

*Published Monthly*

### President

KE4RGH – Bill Stern

### Vice-President

KE4JZT – A.D. Randolph

### Secretary/ Treasurer

KD4VRY – Steve Flieshman

### Past President

AD4TR – Martin Pelt

### Repeater Trustee

WB2QLP – Jordan Mash

### DX Packet Cluster Node

KD4VRZ – Gary Randall

### Training Committee

N4XSE – Michael Spenser

KO4MD – Robert Smith

### Webmaster

KE4KTZ – Glenn Niesen

### VE Coordinator

KD4VRZ – Gary Randall

### Club Call Trustee

AD4TR – Martin Pelt

### Newsletter

K2ZEL – G. Wm. Reynolds

To